THE

WEEKLY MAGAZINE,

OR

EDINBURGH AMUSEMENT.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19. 1775.

The LIFE *of* CHRISTINA, *Queen of* SWEDEN.

THE celebrated Chriſtina, queen of Sweden, and daughter of the great Guſtavus Adolphus, was born in 1626. Being only ſix years old when ſhe loſt her father, the marſhal of the diet propoſed to the aſſembled ſtates to raiſe to the throne the daughter of the great Guſtavus. "Where is that daughter of Guſtavus?" ſaid a member of the order of peaſants. "We cannot know till we have ſeen her." All the commonalty uſed the ſame language: Upon which the marſhal, to appeaſe their diſcontents, went immediately for Chriſtina, and held her up in his arms in the middle of the aſſembly. The diſſatisfied peaſant, after viewing her attentively, exclaimed, in a kind of tranſport, "It is ſhe! Behold the noſe, the eyes, and the forehead of the great Guſtavus Adolphus. We will have her for our ſovereign!" She was ſeated on the throne, and proclaimed accordingly.

When this princeſs came of age, ſhe governed with much wiſdom, and eſtabliſhed peace and good order in her kingdom; but, as ſhe did not marry, the ſtates ſent her many warm ſolicitations on that ſubject. One day ſhe freed herſelf from them, by ſaying, "I would rather direct you to a good prince, and a ſucceſſor capable of holding with glory the reins of government. Do not force me then to marry; for I might as likely be mother of a Nero as an Auguſtus."

During the reign of Chriſtina, merit was diſtinguiſhed and promoted in preference to birth. Salvius, her chancellor, who conducted ſeveral negociations advantageous to Sweden, was, by his birth, excluded from the rank of a ſenator. That dignity, which is the moſt exalted in the kingdom, Chriſtina conferred upon him. "When good advice and wiſe counſels are neceſſary," ſaid ſhe to the ſenate, "we only aſk of the ſixteen diviſions what muſt be done. Salvius wants nothing but birth. He is not only irreproachable, but every way qualified. I muſt have able counſellors."

She cultivated the arts in a country where, till her time, they had been unknown. Deſcartes taught her the elements of his new philoſophy; but he ſaw with concern this princeſs ſpend much of her time in the dry and barren ſtudy of languages. A croud of linguiſts

ſurrounded the throne, which made ſtrangers ſay, that Sweden was going to be governed by grammarians. The phyſician Bourdelot, ſon of a barber at Sens, and who, for want of other merit, endeavoured to entertain the queen with his pleaſantries, threw frequent ridicule upon this kind of court. Meibom employed himſelf in reſearches after the muſic of the antients, and Naude, another learned man, had written upon the Greek and Roman dances. The humorous Bourdelot prevailed on Chriſtina to deſire theſe interpreters of antiquity to illuſtrate their reaſonings by example; and the ſerious Meibom ſaw himſelf obliged, under pain of the queen's diſpleaſure, to ſing with his hoarſe and faultering voice an air *a la Grecque*, while the grave Naude executed on his part, in awkward and trembling ſteps, a dance *a la Romaine*.

Chriſtina reſigned the crown in the year 1654, when ſhe was only in the prime of life. A diſlike to public affairs, a deſire of cultivating the arts in their proper country; and, more than all, the love of liberty, induced her to that ſtrange reſolution. The aſſembled ſtates endeavoured in vain to retain a queen whom they loved. She was obſtinate, and ſuddenly left Stockholm, ſaying, "My part is played."

As ſoon as ſhe had quitted the territories of Sweden, ſhe became a man; or, at leaſt, ſhe took the habit of one. She diſmiſſed her women, and retained only in her ſervice five gentlemen, who were all ignorant where they went. She ſtaid ſome time at Antwerp, where ſhe reſumed the dreſs of a woman. The prince of Conde, for whom ſhe had much eſteem, was then in that city. The formalities of the ceremonial hindered him from paying her a viſit; but he ſtole one day into her chamber among her courtiers. "I muſt ſee that princeſs," ſaid he, "who has ſo eaſily reſigned a crown, for which others combat with ſo much ardour, and which we have fought during our whole life, without being able to attain." He went ſome days after in the ſame manner, when Chriſtina, coming up to him, ſaid, "My couſin! who would have believed, ten years ago, that you and I ſhould thus meet at a diſtance from our country?" And we may add, in a ſtate which had been laid waſte by the father of Chriſtina, and where Conde himſelf had carried fire and ſword.

Chriſtina, ſoon after her abdication, embraced the catholic religion at Bruſſels, and publicly abjured Lutheraniſm at Inſpruck. The ſame evening ſhe went to a comedy, performed for her entertainment, which gave the Proteſtants, who did not believe her change ſincere, occaſion to ſay, "It is but juſt that the Catholics ſhould give her a comedy in the evening, as ſhe gave them a farce in the morning."

The ſincerity of her converſion has, indeed, been much doubted; and it ought here to be obſerved, that it was this princeſs who took for her motto, *Fata viam invenient*; "The deſtinies direct my courſe;" and who made the famous reply to the Jeſuits of Louvain. Theſe Jeſuits flatteringly ſaid to her, that, ſince ſhe was become catholic, ſhe would be placed among the ſaints, and by the ſide of St Bridget of Sweden. "I would much rather," replied ſhe keenly, "be placed among the philoſophers."

She went afterwards to Rome, and her entry into that capital had all the air of a triumph. The Pope was deſirous that ſhe ſhould conſider what he called her *victory over error* as a more glorious conqueſt than had ever been gained over the moſt warlike nations. Several days were ſpent in feaſtings, after which ſhe gave herſelf up intirely to her taſte for the belles-lettres, the ſciences, and the arts. One day, as ſhe admired a marble ſtatue of the cavalier Bernin, repreſenting Truth; a cardinal, and a lover of the *concetti*, coming up to her, ſaid, "One may truly ſay, Madam, that never ſovereign loved truth ſo well as you in *appearance*."—"Becauſe," replied ſhe, "all truths are not of *marble*."

A contagion which ſeized her at Rome, or rather a ſpirit naturally reſtleſs and inquiſitive, a rage of ſeeing and learning, provoked Chriſtina to make a journey to France. She arrived by ſea at Marſeilles. All poſſible honours were paid her in the cities through which ſhe paſſed. It was even neceſſary that ſhe ſhould endure all the harangues preſcribed for the ceremonial. Having liſtened to one, among many, that tired her by its languor, a French officer, who accompanied her, begged her to expreſs her ſatisfaction to the orator: "Moſt

heartily," said she; "but it is only because he has done."

At last she arrived at Fontainbleau, in the dress of an Amazon. Several ladies of the court came to welcome her, and advanced to salute her. Christina was somewhat offended at their familiarity, but contented herself with saying, "How anxious are these ladies to kiss me! — Is it because I resemble a man?"

She in general avoided the company of women, whom she considered as trifflers. "If I love the men," said she, "it is not because they are men; but because they are not women."

When she came to Paris, all the supreme courts complimented her. She replied to all these harangues with a dignity consistent with her rank, and extempore. A doctor of divinity, at the head of his company, addressed her in these words: *Suecia te Christinam fecit, Roma christianam; faciat te Gallia christianissimam.* "Sweden made you Christina, Rome a christian, may France make you most christian." This wish, which was the most flattering that could possibly have been offered her, intimated a hope that she might one day be queen of France; but it was very unlikely that a young king should conceive an inclination for a woman much older than himself, and who had quitted not only the amiable virtues of her sex, but every thing feminine, even to her dress.

She welcomed all the learned; she was not even ashamed to make a parade to them of her studies. Menage, whom she already knew by reputation, was appointed to introduce such persons as deserved her notice. In presenting them, he generally added, "This is Monf. such-a-one, *a man of merit.*" One day, fatigued with a number of these visits, she said, with an air of chagrin, "This Monsieur Menage knows well the *men of merit.*"

As she was fond of the company of scholars and men of genius, she went to one of the literary assemblies, then held at the duke of Guise's. Gilbert, her resident in France, there read a comedy of his own composing, in which the pleasantry was a little too free. Chapelain, author of the poem called *The Maid*, and then in high reputation, pronounced the comedy too licentious. Christina suddenly turned to Menage, who was also present at the reading of the piece, and asked what he thought of it. Menage, who divined the sentiments of the queen, commended it without reserve. "I am glad," cried Christina briskly, "that this comedy pleases you. One may depend upon you: as for M. Chapelain, poor man! he would have every thing to be a maid."

This illustrious princess, after having viewed every thing curious at Paris, left the capital. In passing Senlis, she paid a visit to the celebrated Ninon de l'Enclos, who there resided, and who was the only woman for whom she ever testified esteem, perhaps because Ninon also despised the company of women, and in this particular justified the taste of Christina.

The kind reception which the queen of Sweden had met with in France, made her pay it a second visit in the year 1657. It was in this journey that she caused Monaldeschi, her principal attendant, to be assassinated in the gallery of Fontainbleau. That murder, which she would have had pass as the just punishment of a criminal, disgusted every one. Besides, the courtiers disliked the company of a woman who dressed like a man, and the severity of whose mind rejected all pleasantry. If any one attempted to amuse her with humorous tales or anecdotes, she would ironically praise him, by saying, "You have a good memory, Sir!"

Finding her consequence, therefore, begin to decline in France, Christina left it; and, after having made several journies into Germany, and even into Sweden, to solicit the payment of her pension, and quiet her restless spirit, she died at Rome on the 16th day of April, in the year 1689, having proved the truth of the prediction of the great chancellor Oxenstiern, who, on his death-bed, inquired after Christina, and being informed she had fallen into neglect, expired in saying, "I told her she would repent of what she had done:—but—she is still the daughter of the great Gustavus."

Her character is thus drawn by an eminent foreigner: Christina was born with the enthusiasm of a hero, and the genius of a great man. She had the head of a statesman, and the heart of a good king. When she seized the reins of government, she astonished, notwithstanding her youth, all the senators who had grown grey in the study of the law, and in the science of politics. No sove-

reign ever attended with more ſagacity and conſtancy to all the details of adminiſtration. She would ſee and know every thing. She often conſulted her miniſters; but ſhe never allowed herſelf to be ſwayed either by authority or credulity. She judged of the different arguments offered: ſhe often herſelf ſtarted a new opinion; and her deciſion was conſidered as the oracle of reaſon. She had arrived at this great art of reigning by the aſſiſtance of a vigorous and active mind, and an education ſevere and altogether maſculine.

Her perſon little engaged her attention. She could not bear looking-glaſſes. She was deſirous of appearing amiable, but in her own way. She deſpiſed the amuſements and occupations of women. To ſtudy the antient and modern languages; to ſathom the depth of the ſciences; to cultivate polite learning; to inſtruct herſelf in the elegant and uſeful arts; to attend to the affairs of government, and fulfil all the duties of royalty, were her occupations; and to make long journies, either on horſe or foot, to run at the chace, and to fence, were her amuſements. She was indefatigable, and always in action.

If we may judge from her own account, Chriſtina was "miſtruſtful, ſuſpicious, and ambitious, even to exceſs; iraſcible, proud, impatient, contemptuous, and ironical; little inclined to devotion, incredulous, and of a warm and ſanguine temperament, which incited her ſtrongly to love:"—but, if we believe her, ſhe never yielded to this tendency of her conſtitution, from a principle of pride, becauſe ſhe could not bear to ſubmit to the condition of an inferior.

She neglected all the decorums of her ſex. She could not take the trouble of them. "I had better," ſaid ſhe, "emancipate myſelf at once. I was never born to be a ſlave." Anxious to render herſelf illuſtrious by great actions, ſhe gave herſelf no concern about little ſingularities. She uſed a great many oaths in her converſation, laughed aloud, and walked with much precipitation. She had, in ſhort, neither the virtues nor the vices, the accompliſhments nor the foibles of a woman. The daughter of the great Guſtavus was of a nature different, in many reſpects, from other women; and, as Guſtavus himſelf wiſhed, "That girl had better been a boy."

Glory was the predominant paſſion of Chriſtina; but ſhe often miſtook the ſhadow for the ſubſtance, and always followed her *ignis fatuus* too far. Her greateſt reproach is her abdication—to have quitted a throne to which her birth, her talents, and her inclinations ought to have attached her. Chriſtina would have been ranked among the moſt illuſtrious ſovereigns, had ſhe continued to govern. The ſingularity of her manners, and of her character, would only have rendered her more conſpicuous. All great geniuſes have certain oddities which conſtitute their originality, and raiſe them above the reſt of the ſpecies; but they muſt be viewed in a certain point of elevation. Brought down to the level of life, they are too ſtrikingly contraſted with the uſages of the world to be properly judged of. This Chriſtina ſeverely experienced after her abdication. Drawn from her ſphere by a miſtaken love of learning and freedom, this princeſs, who had been univerſally admired on the throne, became ridiculous in ſociety. Her talents, her foibles, and even her virtues, were miſplaced. Nothing ſuited the condition to which her caprice had reduced her: But, after all, we muſt conclude with ſaying, "She was ſtill the daughter of the great Guſtavus."

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

LOOKING the other day into your Magazine, [Vol. xxvi. P. 399.] I read Mr L—'s piece, entitled, The Speculatiſt, on the queſtion "Whether an active or a ſpeculative life, is moſt conducive to the happineſs of mankind?"—Or, (ſays he) in other words I may draw out the queſtion, "Whether a ſolitary monk or the buſy tradeſman, is the more uſeful being?" If this is deſigned as a more plain ſtate of the queſtion, if he thinks the terms Monk and Tradeſman equivalent to ſpeculative and active, he is certainly miſtaken; if he did not think them equivalent, though ſpecious, it is a material ſhuffling and changing the queſtion, to make way for deciding it in a ſenſe in which few will differ from his opinion; becauſe, in this inteliigent and polite age, nobody will heſitate to prefer a buſy uſeful tradeſman to a ſolitary moping monk. It is on the firſt queſtion that I intend to make a few obſervations (for Mr L— in drawing it on the

anvil, has entirely metamorphoſed it), not with a deſign to give a proper diſcuſſion of it, but only to ſhew the falſe light in which Mr L— has placed a college life.

Were a free commercial ſtate like Britain reduced to the ſad alternative, either to loſe her tradeſmen and artificers, or her collegians and philoſophers, the good of ſociety would be leaſt diminiſhed by diſmiſſing the laſt. The ſpeculative and active part of mankind, while they continue in the ſame commonwealth, muſt, and ever will be dependent on, and mutually conducive to, each other's happineſs. Take away her colleges, her ſeminaries of polite and uſeful learning, and Britain, now the glory and envy of the world, will ſoon relapſe into her former impolite, ignorant, and ſavage ſtate. Have not a Newton, and other mathematical philoſophers, been, by their diſcoveries and improvements, infinitely uſeful to ſociety, in improving navigation, architecture, fortification, &c.? Are not theſe the ſources of our grandeur, opulence and wealth? Though the artificer can practiſe the mechanical arts, it was the philoſophers and men of ſpeculation that laid the foundation of the mechanical ſtructure. I can by no means agree to the illiberal aſſertion of Mr L—, when he ſays, "A college life, which we generally tack to a ſpeculative ſyſtem, is not that which will afford the world, either by principle or precept, an example which may be conducive to its benefit. The beſt part of his life is ſpent ſo as to render him unfit for ſociety, and when he at laſt iſſues forth to enjoy it, he finds himſelf, from education, incapable of becoming even a tolerable member. The education he has received, is not of much ſervice to mankind; for, being a ſtranger to the world, and utterly unverſed in the various humours, frailties, and vices, incident to human nature, he muſt certainly be very ill qualified to frame proper rules and laws for their government." Mr L— could not take this view from the preſent age, or from your academy, Mr Printer: he is certainly dreaming of Plato's republic, or of a monkiſh monaſtic life in the days of yore. Does a collegian know nothing of human nature? Are not academies, for the moſt part, erected in the populous, polite and humanized cities of Europe? Does Mr L— think that a collegian never goes without the college-gate during ten or twelve years' attendance? Is there nothing of human manners, its frailties, and vices, to be ſeen in Edinburgh, and other populous cities? Every body that knows any thing, knows there is. Have not many educated in colleges, ſhewn by their writings, that they have underſtood mankind, and ſtudied the human heart with ſucceſs? Do we not ſee them daily iſſuing forth from colleges, well qualified for reliſhing and enjoying ſocial life, and acting in the moſt important and honourable ſtations with integrity, uſefulneſs, and applauſe?

That philoſophers, tacked by Mr L— to a ſpeculative ſyſtem, have contributed nothing either from principle, precept, or example, conducive to the benefit of the world, is a very falſe and illiberal aſſertion. Do not the writings and lives of many who have been bred at your college, Mr Printer, and have been called to occupy different important departments in life? Do not the writings and example of many who are profeſſors in it, evince to the world that they underſtand human nature, its various humours, frailties, and vices, and that they are not only tolerable, but valuable members of ſociety? This gives Mr L—'s aſſertion the downright lie; theſe are facts, and facts are ſtubborn arguments. It is true, many, in conſequence of ſtudy and retirement, cannot cringe and bow, and friſk and fiddle it away, in a polite circle of belles and macaronies; but this does not prove that they can contribute nothing conducive to the happineſs of mankind. In ſhort, in the preſent improved ſtate of trade and commerce, the active and buſy tradeſman contributes more immediately to the welfare and happineſs of ſociety. The exiſtence, the happineſs of ſociety depends on the obſervation of laws, regulations, and rules ſuited to its nature and circumſtances. This foundation was laid by the ſpeculative and learned part of ſociety, who framed thoſe wholeſome laws, rules, and regulations, and which demonſtrates that they have contributed ſomething conducive to the good of the world, and that they underſtood human nature, its various humours and frailties, its virtues and vices.

B——.

Jan. 9. 1775.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

I AM very much entertained by your ingenious correſpondent *Urbanus* in the three laſt numbers of your uſeful miſcellany, I hope he will continue to give us more of his entertaining letters.

I heartily agree with him almoſt in every thing concerning liming, and the management of different ſoils. Broad ridges and ſhallow plowing (as recommended in P. 1.) are the only things I have ſome doubt of doing well in clay; but it catches my fancy, as it is much eaſier performed than the reverſe, eſpecially in clay lands, which my farm chiefly conſiſts of. I may be wrong, but cannot help thinking, that very broad ridges are improper; for in proportion to their breadth they muſt be raiſed in the middle to give a proper deſcent for the rains to fall eaſily into the furrows, by which means the ſoil will be too much gathered from the ſides of the ridges. Shallow plowing encourages root weeds, whereas the oppoſite in part deſtroys them, and by plowing up a little new clay, and expoſing it to the ſun, air, and froſt, it becomes mellow; the ſtaple of earth is thereby thickened, which will encourage the plants to ſtrike a deep root, and in courſe they will receive more moiſture and nourihment in the dry ſeaſon.

In laying down a field with graſs ſeeds, I never obſerved much difference with any of the white crops. Clover is like turnip; it thrives beſt in a tender ſoil that has been lately dunged; therefore I always lay down ground in clover, immediately after it hath gotten a ſummer or ſpring fallow, to which I never fail to add ſome dung.

Be ſo good as inform *Urbanus*, notwithſtanding this, that I ſhall try the experiment with a little piece of my ground; but, before I begin, ſhall be glad to know the proper breadth of the ridges, and alſo the depth the plough ought to go. Yours, &c.

CARBONARIUS.

Clydeſdale, Jan. 10.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

THE appearance of a letter on the ſubject of farming, led me to think your Magazine might be of ſome more ſervice to me than the pleaſure I have in the weekly reading of it. And why ſhould not ſuch publications be a conſtant vehicle to articles of correſpondence relating to farming, or any other ſuch uſeful ſubject, that may be highly advantageous, eſpecially to ſuch as live in a ſequeſtred ſtate, whereby the experienced may be benevolent without expence, and the ignorant inſtructed at any eaſy rate?

For inſtance, will you permit me by your means to aſk your farming correſpondent a queſtion or two with regard to the manure of clay?

I live in a part of the country where farming continues as practiſed this century paſt, and where there is no acceſs to information but what ariſes from books or obſervation. I have a ſmall bit of ground which I would wiſh to cultivate to the beſt purpoſe, for my own advantage, as well as for the inſtruction of others; but the ſoil being thin, poor, and ſandy, with ſome little mixture of earth, that has perhaps grown chiefly from culture, and having no acceſs for ſome years to any foreign manure except lime, my endeavours this way have not been remarkably ſucceſsful.

This made me very well pleaſed two or three years ago, to find a bed of eight or nine feet thick of clay lying in my farm, under a bed of ſand about ſix feet deep. The clay is loote and rotten, is eaſily diſſolved, of a browniſh colour, and has in the heap a ſandy look to the eye, but feels ſoft and unctuous to the touch; the ſtagnated water that lies in the pool out of which it is dug, aſſumes in dry weather a greeniſh oily appearance, but I do not find that it ferments in acids or any other liquor; it has perhaps been once covered by the ſea: this I have put at the rate of 3 or 400, or perhaps more, ſingle horſe loads or cartfalls on the acre, and I find it of ſome ſervice: but I have as yet too little experience of its benefit to judge of its value in compariſon with its expence.

What then I would wiſh from your correſpondent on farming, or any of your correſpondents who may have experience in theſe matters, is, to let me know by the ſame method, whether ſuch a clay, or at ſuch a depth, be worth a further trial? If it is, will it do by itſelf without the help of lime, which is here expenſive, or any other manure? What is the moſt proper time or manner of laying it on? How ought the ground ſo manured

to be croped, and what crops will it beſt bear, or how many on ſuch ſandy ground, after a ley of betwixt three and ſix years.

An anſwer to theſe queſtions, by either ſtopping any further trial, or encouraging me to go on, will deter, or bear me up againſt the ridicule of my neighbours; and if allowed to be a proper and profitable improvement, may be of conſiderable ſervice to many people, eſpecially in this country, where there is a great deal of ſuch ground, and contiguous to plenty of ſuch manure, as well as to

SIR, Yours, &c.

Dec. 29. 1774. B——.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

I WAS once a correſpondent of yours, but have been, for a while, chagrined by a piece of injuſtice that was done me. Some other perſon aſſumed my ſignature, and foiſted into your Magazine a flimſy, inanimate performance: Should I blame you, Sir, for not diſtinguiſhing with accuracy every man's manner of writing? perhaps it is unfair; or ſhould I, by way of retaliation, criticiſe on the gentleman's eſſay, as to the language, ſentiment, arrangement and connection? perhaps that would be ungenteel; but ſure I am he is reprehenſible for expoſing his own child at my threſhold, and borrowing the name of a ſtranger to uſher it into the world.

Some of your readers, I know, wiſh to ſee ſerious ſubjects introduced with propriety into your Magazine: this is not foreign to your plan of conveying inſtruction, together with amuſement; and this, perhaps, they have a title to expect, while every other claſs of readers have their palates regaled occaſionally with a diſh ſuited to their taſte.

At this ſeaſon of the year, while the gay, the giddy and diſſipated part of mankind are immerſed in diverſions, and become the declared votaries of mirth and feſtivity, the ſober and contemplative will join meditation with their receſs from buſineſs. Theſe review the paſt year, weigh their actions in the balance, and acknowledge human life to be at beſt but like the airy ſhadows of a dream, and to paſs on as a tale that is told; while thoſe flee from meditation, are terrified to look into their own lives, and, wiſhing to bury the paſt in oblivion, puſh on fleeting time as if it moved but ſlowly, and act upon the principle of Epicurus, "Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die." Every one's conſcience may ſoon tell to which of theſe claſſes he belongs. Conſcience ſhall tell, if he will but hear its voice.

Far be it from me, Sir, to adminiſter too rigorous admonitions. Auſterity I ſtudiouſly avoid. By requiring too much I might loſe the whole. All extremes are to be avoided. Nor is there any intention to revive the exploded doctrine of a Romiſh penance; but I wiſh to aſk the men of the world, who take up your Magazine, or a news-paper perhaps, inſtead of going to church, a queſtion or two, which they ought to anſwer impartially before their own conſciences. Are you made for this world only; or are you made for another alſo? Are you deſtined for time alone; or ſhall you exiſt through all eternity? If for the former, why are you more intelligent than the beaſts of the field or the fowls of heaven? For what purpoſe are you endued with a rational ſpirit, which, in ſpite of atheiſm, recoils at the moſt diſtant proſpect of annihilation? If you are deſtined for the latter, ought you not to prepare for that other world, while preparation is poſſible? Ought you not, while time is paſſing on, to meditate on eternity, leſt you be an utter ſtranger when you arrive at that ſtate? This world is a preparation for the next; and you cannot poſſibly expect to appear to advantage in any ſtate, unleſs you improve with care the ſeaſon which, by the wiſe Author of nature, is allotted for preparing to appear there. You are not to imagine that God will, for your ſake, invert the order of nature: and, unleſs he were, by your neglecting now to prepare for futurity, you are certainly undone.—The ſame reaſoning will hold in every caſe. Can the politician make a figure in the ſenate? Can the orator appear to advantage at the bar? Can the moraliſt teach ſound doctrine to mankind? Or can the phyſician ſkilfully diſſect the human body, or the philoſopher acutely analyſe the human mind, if they had ſpent the time allotted for ſtudy in levity and diſſipation? Surely no: and can you expect to be fitted for futurity, unleſs you prepare for this future ſtate. Thus far, then, I hope we are agreed: but, if thou haſt gone this far, ſhalt thou go no farther? Perhaps thy dæmon whiſpers, Al-

though preparation for eternity be neceſſary, yet a convenient ſeaſon is to be choſen. I rejoin, What ſeaſon can be more convenient than the preſent? You have now finiſhed another ſtage in your journey towards death, and know not if there be but a ſtep betwixt you and the king of terrors. You have now compleated another of your few and uncertain years, and know not if you ſhall ſee the end of one more. The preſent time ought to be, as it were, a reſting place in human life. This is the time for caſting up your accounts, when you are about to enter upon the career of a ſucceeding year. Should the children of this world be wiſer in their generation than the children of God? Or ſhall men diſcover more ſagacity in regulating matters of ſmaller moment, which extend their influence no farther than the ſhort line of human life—than in adjuſting concerns of the higheſt importance, which ſhall affect their happineſs through all futurity? The merchant or bookholder, who neglects totally to balance his accounts, or fixes no ſtated ſeaſon for that purpoſe, can never expect to thrive in buſineſs for the time to come. If the analogy be juſt, the application is eaſy.

It is far from being my inclination to deſtroy the peace of thoſe I addreſs. I wiſh to ſecure it effectually, by directing them to reſt it upon a ſolid and permanent foundation. If meditation brought death a moment ſooner to give the awful ſummons, or if diſſipation detained him a moment longer from arriving, every man who is afraid of the ſupreme Judge, would act wiſely in flying meditation, and in putting off the evil day as long as poſſible; but as theſe premiſes are not true, we act fooliſhly if we proceed in our conduct upon a falſe concluſion. In moſt caſes, men are cautious of falling into ſuch abſurdities.

Time, like a mighty river, glides ſmoothly down with an uninterrupted courſe, until it loſe itſelf in the boundleſs ocean of eternity. We are all carried along by this current, whoſe torrent it is impoſſible for a moment to ſtop or retard, and whoſe ſmoothneſs is ſo imperceptible, that it often deceives, inſomuch that moſt men ſeldom attend to their own ſituation, until they are juſt launching into an immenſe ocean, from whence there is no return. Then indeed, although perhaps not till then, they awake from their ſecurity and ſee their miſtake. They view eternity before them, in which their deſtiny is fixed for ever, unprepared and miſerable as they are, and bid an everlaſtlaſting adieu to time, in which alone it was poſſible to prepare themſelves. Behold the conſequence of the want of meditation! But time paſt never returns. What ſhall then be the anguiſh of ſuch as neglected to improve time! Exiſtence itſelf will be a curſe! Conſcience is a worm that ſhall never die! But I leave every man to his own reflections.—It might perhaps be proper alſo to deſcribe the nature and the ſubjects of meditation, but theſe I defer, not knowing but you have to much forgot me, as to refuſe inſerting what is ſent.

Yours, &c.

CHRISTIANUS.

P. S. If *Myra* and *Florella* are ſtill in the circle of your readers, pleaſe to ſend them the compliments of the ſeaſon. I hope their liberality of ſentiment is ſtill cheriſhed by the benign influence of the law of toleration.

ANECDOTE *of the late Dr* PATRICK MURDOCH. [Vol. xxvi. P. 288.]

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

THE doctor paid a viſit to his friends in Scotland, in company with his friend the late Mr Forbes of Culloden, the ſummer after Dr Beattie's Eſſay on Truth was publiſhed, when the perſon who writes this ſpent a day with him at the houſe of the late Sir Arthur Forbes of Craigievar. He aſked whether I was acquainted with Mr Beattie? I told him I was. "I have not that pleaſure (ſaid he), but have read his book with much ſatisfaction: and, to convince you that I entirely approve of what he has written, I had no ſooner read it over, than I wrote to my friend Mr Becket of London, earneſtly recommending it to him to have the book tranſlated into French, as the principles which the gentleman ſo ſolidly confutes have done infinite miſchief in France. I am ſorry, however, to be informed by Mr Becket's anſwer (which he read to me), that, on account of his partner's abſence, and bad ſtate of health, and ſome other preſſing engagements, he cannot at preſent undertake the thing."

This early and unſolicited teſtimony

in favour of a work which hath been ſince diſtinguiſhed by the general approbation of the public, does honour to Dr Murdoch's judgment, and is an unqueſtionable proof of his good principles. To wiſh that a work ſo well intended, and ſo admirably executed, might be uſeful to all mankind, was worthy that goodneſs of heart, that candour of ſentiment, which ſo ſtrongly marked the intimate friend of the amiable *Thomſon*. Some may think this a trifle; but in an age when ſo many aſſume falſe characters, nothing that has a tendency to mark a real one appears in that light to to me. Yours, &c. F. D—.

Abbot's-Inch, Jan. 12.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SOPHRONIUS *to* FLAVIA *on* FRIENDSHIP.

Hard is the doubt, and difficult to deem
When all three kinds of love together meet,
And to diſpart the heart with power extreme,
Whether ſhall weigh the balance down; to wit,
The dear affection unto kindred ſweet,
Or raging fire of love to womankind,
Or zeal of friends combin'd, by virtues meet.
But of them all, the band of virtuous mind,
Methinks the gentle heart ſhould moſt aſſured bind:
For natural affection ſoon doth ceaſe,
And quenched is with Cupid's greater flame;
But faithful friendſhip doth them both ſuppreſs,
And them with maſtering diſcipline doth tame,
Through thoughts aſpiring to eternal fame.
For as the ſoul doth rule the earthly maſs,
And all the ſervice of the body frame;
So love of ſoul, doth love of body paſs,
No leſs than perfect gold ſurmounts the meaneſt braſs. SPENCER.

YOU ſee, my Flavia, from theſe lines of the old venerable Engliſh poet, quoted by Sir Richard Steele in the Spectator, that he diſtinguiſhes three different kinds of love; the natural affection that we feel to near relations; the paſſion that ſubſiſts between the ſexes; and the love of friendſhip; and that he gives the preference to this laſt. In the preſent letter, I mean firſt to mark out the difference that paſſes between what is commonly called love and friendſhip, and next to ſhew, by a few convincing arguments, that the ſentence pronounced by Spencer is juſt.

Thoſe who have compared love and friendſhip together, have found out a thouſand differences that diſtinguiſh them; but in my opinion, they may be all reduced within a narrow compaſs. Friendſhip is a love of an eaſy, moderate, and tranquil nature, wholly under the command and guidance of reaſon. Love is a hot impetuous paſſion, that keeps no meaſures, is limited by no bounds, governed by no laws, but mounts up into tranſports, and flies away into ecſtaſies. Friendſhip may be compared to a gentle ſtream that glides along with eaſy motion; love to an impetuous torrent that ſweeps every thing before it: Or friendſhip may be compared to a fire that burns ſo equally, that it warms and preſerves, without tormenting and conſuming our beings; love to a violent conflagration, that burns with the utmoſt fury, and too often torments and conſumes the ſubjects in which it has been kindled. Friendſhip is always directed by reaſon, and unites with thoſe whom her guide finds moſt deſerving of attachment; love is exceedingly capricious, and ſeldom chuſes to fix where reaſon ſays it ſhould. Friendſhip directs her notice principally to the qualifications of the mind; love pays more regard to the exterior accompliſhments of perſon.—Love is blind to the imperfections of the beloved object, and beholds its perfections through a medium that magnifies above meaſure; friendſhip ſees with leſs prejudiced eyes, and views the objects that it fixes upon in their own colours. Love is prone to flattery, and ſeems to direct all its aims to pleaſe; friendſhip is ever influenced by ſincerity alone, and has nothing in view but the good of the friend. Hence your lover will take every opportunity to praiſe the luſtre of your eyes, the roſe of your cheek, the brilliancy of your wit, the tenderneſs of your heart; but your friend will carefully mark down the errors of your conduct, the improprieties of your behaviour, the foibles of your temper, and admoniſh you of them, though at the riſk of loſing your favour. Love, ſays Bruyere, ſeizes on us ſuddenly, without giving us time to reflect; our diſpoſitions, or our weakneſs, favours the ſurprize; one look, one glance from the fair, fixes and determines us; friendſhip, on the contrary, is a long time in forming, and acquires ſtrength and perfection by ſlow degrees, and by means of a long acquaintance and familiarity. How much wit, good nature, affection, how many good offices and civilities are there a-

mong friends to do that in many years, which ſometimes a fine face, or a fine hand, does in a minute? Time which ſtrengthens friendſhip, weakens love. Love, as long as it doth laſt, ſubſiſts of itſelf, and ſometimes by thoſe very means which ſhould ſeem rather to extinguiſh it, ſeverity, cruelty, abſence, jealouſy: friendſhip, on the contrary, ſtands in need of all helps, care, confidence, and complaiſance; if not ſupplied with theſe, it expires.

The love of friendſhip is principally ſeated in the will, which is a ſpiritual faculty; the paſſion of love in the imagination, which is partly material; and hence friendſhip is more ſpiritual, more pure, as well as more firm and conſtant, but leſs ſenſible than love. This will, perhaps, require more explication. I have diſtinguiſhed two kinds of love; the firſt of which I call ſenſible, becauſe, by affecting the imagination, it makes an impreſſion upon the nerves, which are the organs of ſenſation, and by that means produces a delightful feeling in the ſoul. It ſets the animal ſpirits in motion, dilates the muſcles of the heart, occaſions an agreeable ſenſation in it, that makes us think and ſpeak with pleaſure of the beloved object, and produces other ſuch like effects, well deſcribed by the famous Des Cartes, in that excellent treatiſe, which he entitles *Les paſſions de l'ame*. The ſecond is ſeated in the will, and as it does not in any way affect the nervous ſyſtem, ſo it occaſions no ſenſation in the ſoul: becauſe all the feelings of the ſoul are occaſioned by the internal or external motions of the nerves whilſt it is united to the body, and when they are not moved, the ſoul cannot feel. That kind of love, therefore, which I call a love of the will, cannot be known by any other means, but only by the effect that it produces upon our actions. It is not ſo violent, but it is much more ſtrong and laſting than the other; it does not occaſion that tenderneſs towards the objects of our love, but it makes us oftentimes prefer them to all things whatſoever, even to our own very lives, and hence it may be called with propriety, a love of preference. Such, for the moſt part, is the love of friendſhip; I ſay for the moſt part, becauſe ſometimes it may be extremely ſenſible and tender. And ſuch in fact, we learn from divine authority, was the friendſhip betwixt David and Jonathan. It is from the lamentation of that great king over his deceaſed friend, that we learn it; *I am diſtreſſed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleaſant haſt thou been unto me; thy love to me was wonderful, paſſing the love of women. As the mother loveth her only ſon, ſo did I love thee.* In fine, I think it is pretty clear, that the love of friendſhip between man and man is ſometimes no leſs tender and ſenſible, for the moſt part more ſtrong and laſting, and always more pure and rational, than that which ſubſiſts between the ſexes.

I have often obſerved, that thoſe philoſophers, who ſpeak of friendſhip in raptures, expreſs themſelves after a very different manner concerning love. They ſeem to look upon it as a neceſſary but a dangerous paſſion, productive of a thouſand miſeries of the firſt magnitude; and one of them has gone the length of affirming, that there are more calamities in the world ariſing from love than from hatred. There is ſurely no-body, anywiſe converſant in hiſtory, who has not remarked the cataſtrophe that love has produced in whole kingdoms from the days of Paris and Helena down to the days of Henry VIII. and Anna Bouleign: nay, I believe there are few perſons much acquainted with the world, who have not been eye witneſſes to ſome of the dire effects produced by that violent paſſion. The ravages that it daily commits upon the character, the means, the reaſon, the health, the lives, and, which is ſtill more valuable, the innocence of both ſexes, are too viſible to be concealed. Poverty, contempt, diſtraction, diſeaſe, death and damnation, are the daily conſequences of the exceſs of it. How often have its victims exhibited a miſerable ſpectacle in the hoſpitals of the ſick, in Bedlam, in the dungeons of confinement, or at the foot of the gibbet. How many wiſe men has it not betrayed into the greateſt follies? How many opulent fortunes has it not drained to the laſt farthing? How many good and virtuous perſons has it not hurried into the moſt atrocious crimes? Neither the courage of a Sampſon, nor the holineſs of a David, nor the wiſdom of a Solomon, were proof againſt it. But, granting it ſhould not produce ſuch diſmal effects, or that it ſhould produce them but ſeldom, who can expreſs the troubles, the cares, and I might ſay the agonies, that torture a heart wounded with love? It has been juſtly ſaid, that love is the daughter of

idleneſs, but the mother of diſquietude. How well have the effects of this paſſion been deſcribed by Mr Thomſon in his Spring!

When on the heart the torrent ſoftneſs pours,
Then wiſdom proſtrate lies, and fading fame
Diſſolves in air away.
——————Fantaſtic woes (life:
Chill the warm cheek, and blaſt the bloom of
Neglected fortune flies; and, ſliding ſwift,
Prone into ruin fall his ſcorn'd affairs.
Books are but formal dulneſs, tedious friends;
And ſad amid the ſocial band he ſits
Lonely and inattentive.——
——————But if on bed
Delirious flung, ſleep from his pillow flies:
All night he toſſes, nor the balmy power
In any poſture finds —

Jealouſy is the inſeparable companion of love, when it has once been kindled to a degree of violence; and ſure all the infernal furies, were they let looſe together upon a man, could not occaſion one half of thoſe racking pains with which jealouſy torments the human breaſt. I am not able to deſcribe them; but luckily Mr Thomſon has done it for me in the following lines:

——————Ten thouſand fears
Invented wild, ten thouſand frantic views
Of horrid rivals hanging on the charms,
For which he melts in fondneſs, eat him up
With fervent anguiſh and conſuming rage.
—Anxious doubt diſtracts the tortur'd heart;
For even the ſad aſſurance of his fears
Were eaſe to what he feels. Thus the warm youth,
Whom love deludes into his thorny wilds,
Thro' flowery-tempting paths, or leads a life
Of fevered rapture, or of cruel care.

Happy are thoſe young perſons who are wiſe enough to guard their hearts againſt the witchcraft of enſnaring love. For my part, when I ſee thoughtleſs giddy creatures of either ſex laying their hearts open to the aſſaults of this paſſion, and ſporting with it in their play hours, I imagine I ſee a ſet of children crowding about a wild beaſt of the fierceſt diſpoſitions, and venturing within the length of his chain, to the great riſk of being every moment torn to pieces. It is undoubtedly the intereſt of both ſexes to guard with philoſophic care the avenues that lead to their hearts, and never to allow any object whatſomever to poſſeſs it in a degree that is not perfectly conſiſtent with their peace of mind: but the fair ſex, if I am not much deceived, have the moſt cogent reaſons to induce them to do ſo, as their hearts are more ſuſceptible of this paſſion, and the effects of it infinitely more dangerous to them than to us. Love, ſays a great philoſopher, ſometimes refines a man's behaviour, but always makes a woman's ridiculous.

In fine, I think that I have very ſufficient motives to agree with old Spencer in preferring friendſhip to love; and, as the human heart muſt always have ſomething to amuſe it, I would adviſe every body, who values peace of mind and innocence, to make choice of friendſhip as the moſt eligible of the two. There is no bleſſing of life, ſays Mr Addiſon, that is any way comparable to the enjoyment of a diſcreet and virtuous friend. It eaſes and unloads the mind, clears and improves the underſtanding, engenders thoughts and knowledge, animates virtue and good reſolutions, ſoothes and allays the paſſions, and finds employment for moſt of the vacant hours of life: but I never remember to have read a more exalted encomium on friendſhip than what is contained in that ſhort ſentence pronounced by the wiſe author of Eccleſiaſticus: *A faithful friend is the medicine of life.* His meaning is, that friendſhip has been granted to us by heaven as an univerſal and ſovereign remedy to cure all the diſorders, to heal all the wounds, to eaſe all the pains, to allay all the anguiſh that cleaves to our exiſtence in this world of miſery. Even your lovers themſelves are obliged to have recourſe to the healing balm of friendſhip, in order to cure their wounds and eaſe their ſmarting pains. Even thoſe matrimonial connections, that are cemented by the ſtrongeſt love, can afford no ſolid happineſs without the aid of friendſhip. When love does not mellow into friendſhip, I pity the married couple; when it does, I envy their happineſs. Farewel, my Flavia: Learn to guard your heart againſt the attacks of love, and to put a juſt value upon friendſhip. Yours, &c. SOPHRONIUS.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

Laborious idleneſs our pow'rs employs.

SIR,

I READ a letter from *Philanthropos* in the Caledonian Mercury of Wed-

neſday the 28th ult. with ſome degree of pleaſure. I am acquainted with the young man, and can aſſure you his temper correſp nds with his name very much. What he ſays rather proceeds from a principle of univerſal benevolence than from any ſarcaſtic humour. He, however, regrets, that, in copying his letter, two miſtakes have been committed, which, although they may ſeem very immaterial, mar his meaning a good deal. He therefore intreats that *plow-ſtilt* may be read in place of *plow tail*, and that *tools* be adopted for *fools*. "Our modern politicians I can by no 'means (ſays he) call *fools*, becauſe the 'children of this world are wiſer than 'the children of light. The former 'purſue their pre ent good with much 'more care, diligence and conſtancy, 'than the latter do their happineſs in 'proſpect; at leaſt they are much wiſer 'in their own eyes; for they are clear 'for *ſecuring* ſome hing in the mean 'time, well knowing the force of the 'common proverb, *A bird in the hand 'is worth two in the buſh*."

You would have been highly entertained, as I am informed, to have obſerved the fuſs and ſurpriſe occaſioned in the borough by *Philanthropos*'s letter, eſpecially among the mechanical folks. Their different conjectures and remarks were really diverting: But it ſeems none made ſo conſpicuous a figure in the whole ſcene as one of the town barbers.

Honeſt Mr *Tonſor*, beſides the common and uſual qualifications of his profeſſion, has the additional advantage of being ſometimes employed to *twirl* out the lines of a pſalm in a meeting-houſe, an office, it is ſaid, he is extremely fond of, and performs it with very muſical and devotional *heavings* of the head and *rolling* of the eyes. Thus, being now and then turned into a ſh ed of the linen veſtment of Aaron, he is raiſed a little above his ordinary level, which makes people of his own rank conſider him as a ſort of oracle; and he is generally conſulted on every emergency, particularly to clear up any ſeemingly dark or myſterious paragraph in the papers. He has the merit too of introducing among his neighbours, when over their glaſs, a ſort of moral ſentimental toaſts, inſtead of theſe filthy obſcene ones which prevail but too much among what is called *good* or *polite* company. One of theſe ſententious apothegms will give you a notion of this reformer's talents and turn of mind: "May we know our 'own hearts more, and truſt them leſs." In a word, among his c mpeers,

Turn him to any cauſe of policy,
The gordian knot of it he will unlooſe,
Familiar as his garter.

No ſooner had *Tonſor* eſpied *Philanthy*'s letter, than he ſallied forth with it in his hand, and made a circuit among all the baker's ſhops, ſmithies, and other places of talkative reſort, where he read it to very crowded audiences, commenting upon almoſt every ſentence of it very learnedly and judiciouſly as he went along: But there is no giving you any adequate idea of the mixture of ludicrous curioſity and amazement, which were obſervable in the countenances of every hearer, without aſſiſtance from the language and painting of the inimitable Shakeſpeare:

I ſaw a ſmith ſtand on his hammer, thus,
With open mouth, ſwallowing a barber's *news.*

As I happened to be in town the evening of the weekly club, mentioned in that paper, I attended the laſt meeting. On entering the room, I found the Mercury containing his letter, lying on the table, in cloſe contact with the favourite implement of diverſion the *Totum*. The letter was read openly by almoſt every member preſent. I need not trouble you with the various conjectures thrown out with reſpect to the real author, on whom they never once hit, nor with the different criticiſms on the merit of the performance; you may believe all theſe were regulated by the political affections of the ſpeakers. One circumſtance, however, I cannot well omit; after the noiſe of conjecture and criticiſm was nearly ſubſided, a particular member, who is thought not the leaſt ſagacious among us, took up the paper, and looking at it, as if in a ſecond fit of ſurprize, ſaid, "Ay, ay, ſo our town is in the newspapers too! I dare ſay it is a rare thing to ſee it in the public prints." And then fell a mumbling over to himſelf, the few lines taken from the Spaniſh Friar, all the while ſmacking his lips, as if enjoying the reliſh of ſome guſty morſel, and at laſt cried out—"Hegh! hegh! this

man, the writer, is but an ill poet, for I cannot make theſe lines clink at all." From which I may naturally expect the quotations I have here made free with, will fall under the ſame condemnation. —But the regulator of the club laid the evil ſpirit of criticiſm for the time, by diſſolving the meeting; at the ſame time ſtrictly enjoining the members, not to mention any thing that had paſſed to any of the d—d vermin of ſcribblers. Wiſhing you many happy returns of the ſeaſon, I am, Yours, &c.

Jan. 10. RIDIBUNDUS.

Of the STILLING *of* WAVES *by means of* OIL. *Extracted from ſundry Letters between Dr* FRANKLIN, *Dr* BROWNRIGG, *and the Rev. Mr* FARISH. *From the* PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS.

THIS phænomenon is mentioned by Pliny, as a practice among the ſeamen of his time, but has been generally conſidered as chimerical. In theſe letters, however, the fact is placed beyond diſpute, as will appear from the following extract:

"In 1757," ſays Dr Franklin," being at ſea in a fleet of ninety-ſix ſail bound againſt Louiſburg, I obſerved the wakes of two of the ſhips to be remarkably ſmooth, while all the others were ruffled by the wind, which blew freſh. Being puzzled with the different appearance, I at laſt pointed it out to our captain, and aſked him the meaning of it; "The cooks, ſays he, have, I ſuppoſe, been juſt emptying their greaſy water through the ſcuppers, which has greaſed the ſides of thoſe ſhips a little;" and this anſwer he gave me with an air of ſome little contempt, as to a perſon ignorant of what every body elſe knew. In my own mind I at firſt ſlighted his ſolution, though I was not able to think of another: But recollecting what I had formerly read in Pliny, I reſolved to make ſome experiment of the effect of oil on water, when I ſhould have an opportunity.

"Afterwards being again at ſea in 1762, I firſt obſerved the wonderful quietneſs of oil on agitated water, in the ſwinging glaſs lamp I made to hang up in the cabin, as deſcribed in my printed papers, p. 438. of the fourth edition. This I was continually looking at and conſidering, as an appearance to me inexplicable. An old ſea captain, then a paſſenger with me, thought little of it, ſuppoſing it an effect of the ſame kind with that of oil put on water to ſmooth it, which he ſaid was a practice of the Bermudians when they would ſtrike fiſh, which they could not ſee, if the ſurface of the water was ruffled by the wind. This practice I had never before heard of, and was obliged to him for the information; though I thought him miſtaken as to the ſameneſs of the experiment, the operations being different, as well as the effects. In one caſe, the water is ſmooth till the oil is put on, and then becomes agitated. In the other it is agitated before the oil is applied, and then becomes ſmooth.—The ſame gentleman told me, he had heard it was a practice with the fiſhermen of Liſbon when about to return into the river, (if they ſaw before them too great a ſurf upon the bar, which they apprehended might fill their boats in paſſing) to empty a bottle or two of oil into the ſea, which would ſuppreſs the breakers, and allow them to paſs ſafely: A confirmation of this I have not ſince had an opportunity of obtaining. But diſcourſing of it with another perſon, who had often been in the Mediterranean, I was informed that the divers there, who, when under water in their buſineſs, need light, which the curling of the ſurface interrupts by the refractions of ſo many little waves, let a ſmall quantity of oil now and then out of their mouths, which riſing to the ſurface ſmooths it, and permits the light to come down to them. All theſe informations I at times revolved in my mind, and wondered to find no mention of them in our books of experimental philoſophy.

"At length being at Clapham, where there is, on the Common, a large pond, which I obſerved to be one day very rough with the wind, I fetched out a cruet of oil, and dropt a little of it on the water. I ſaw it ſpread itſelf with ſurpriſing ſwiftneſs upon the ſurface; but the effect of ſmoothing the waves was not produced; for I had applied at firſt on the leeward ſide of the pond, where the waves were largeſt, and the wind drove my oil back upon the ſhore. I then went to the windward ſide, where they began to form; and there the oil, though not more than a tea ſpoonful, produced an inſtant calm over a ſpace ſeveral yards ſquare, which ſpread amazingly, and extended itſelf gradually till it reached the

lee ſide, making all that quarter of the pond, perhaps half an acre, as ſmooth as a looking-glaſs.

"After this, I contrived to take with me, whenever I went into the country, a little oil in the upper hollow joint of my bamboo cane, with which I might repeat the experiment as opportunity ſhould offer, and I found it conſtantly to ſucceed.

"In theſe experiments, one circumſtance ſtruck me with particular ſurprize. This was the ſudden, wide, and forcible ſpreading of a drop of oil on the face of the water, which I do not know that any body has hitherto conſidered. If a drop of oil is put on a poliſhed marble table, or on a looking-glaſs that lies horizontally, the drop remains in its place ſpreading very little. But when put on water it ſpreads inſtantly many feet round, becoming ſo thin as to produce the priſmatic colours, for a conſiderable ſpace, and beyond them ſo much thinner as to be inviſible, except in its effect of ſmoothing the waves at a much greater diſtance. It ſeems as if a mutual repulſion between its particles took place as ſoon as it touched the water, and a repulſion ſo ſtrong as to act on other bodies ſwimming on the ſurface, as ſtraws, leaves, chips, &c. forcing them to recede every way from the drop, as from a center, leaving a large clear ſpace. The quantity of this force, and the diſtance to which it will operate, I have not yet aſcertained; but I think it a curious enquiry, and I wiſh to underſtand whence it ariſes."

[AS the following humorous letter conveys an excellent rebuke to a late plagiary [P. 68.], we could not reſiſt the temptation of giving it a place.]

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

I AM rejoiced to find that one of your correſpondents has taken up the generous reſolution of preſerving ſome works of good authors, which, it ſeems, are tending towards oblivion. I did not imagine that the Spectator was going down-hill ſo faſt, till I ſaw in your Magazine certain remarks of his upon marriage, which were tranſmitted to you by one of your friends South of the Tweed, *A L—r of M——y*.

Having at hand a copy of the works of that once eſteemed author, I compared your correſpondent's extract with the text, and found an intire conformity from the beginning of the ſixth paragraph of the 261ſt number, where he takes up the thread of the Spectator's diſcourſe, to the end of the paper. It is true, he has altered the word *healthy* to *healthful*, and inſtead of ſaying the *taſte of her charms*, as the author has it, he has changed it into *taſte for her charms*; but theſe variations being inconſiderable, and perhaps rather for the better, detract nothing from the fidelity of his edition of that morſel.

Though I am grieved to think that an author I have always admired ſhould be out of print, yet it gives me pleaſure to ſee that there is ſtill one perſon poſſeſſed of his works, who does not grudge to impart his treaſure to the public. Inſtigated by his example, I declare my readineſs to contribute my aſſiſtance in reviving thoſe elegant ſpeculations from the copy in my hands, by which means the work may be haſtened, and that generous friend to taſte and learning may be eaſed in part, both of the drudgery of tranſcribing, and of the expence of paper and poſtage. For, if I be not miſtaken, the latter article alone, ſuppoſing the gentleman to live but a little way ſouth of the Tweed, and to convey a whole paper of the Spectator through each of his letters into the channel of your Magazine, will, at the loweſt computation, amount to no leſs than 4l. 12s. 6d.—a deal of money for a man of letters.

I propoſe, therefore, that he and I ſhould range all the papers of the Spectator into certain claſſes, and let each of us have ſo many of theſe to copy, and tranſmit fairly written to you (poſtage paid), and I think we have no reaſon to doubt your readineſs to inſert them. I expect to hear ſoon from the gentleman by the way of your Magazine, that we may concert meaſures for executing this ſcheme, which promiſes ſo well for the cauſe of literature.

Nothing but the expence of poſtage deters me from propoſing a commentary as an addition to our plan; for ſuch a thing is extremely requiſite on the revival of an obſolete work; however, it luckily happens to be one of that ſort of books, the reading of which is a great help to the underſtanding of them. Were it ſuch a book, indeed, as the

Rambler, it ſhould no more appear abroad without a commentary, than a blind beggar without a dog; for *Johnſon* has other names for things than we.

And here, by the bye, allow me to ſay thus much for the Rambler, which ſome people affect ſo much to cry down, that though it is not written in any of the known languages of the babbling earth, yet it has often been found of ſingular uſe to young children learning to read Engliſh, by exerciſing their yet untutored tongues upon words of ſeven ſyllables, wherein it is truly rich, and thereby faſhioning them to the more fluent pronunciation of their own language; and this the experience of my younger years can atteſt.

But to return: The Spectator was an author who flouriſhed in the reign of Queen Anne, and aſſumed the name of Spectator (which is derived from the Latin word *ſpectare*, to look, ſee, ſpy, or obſerve); on this account, that being a man in no buſineſs, he uſed to employ himſelf in obſerving the actions and demeanour of men, women, and children, on which he made his own remarks, and communicated them to the public in diurnal papers, written for their inſtruction and entertainment. His writings were univerſally well received for the good ſenſe, candour, wit, and learning, that appeared in them, and the great variety of ſubjects that he handled, in ſuch a manner, as almoſt to exhauſt them, while he ſeemed to be only trifling and playing with his pen in ſhort extempore eſſays. The morſel given in your laſt number is ſo excellent, that it muſt raiſe in the public a ſtrong appetite for more of the ſame kind, which, I hope, the joint labours of your ſouthern correſpondent and me ſhall fully gratify in due time; meanwhile they may ſtay their ſtomachs with the firſt part of the 261ſt number of that ſcarce and valuable book, being the introduction to what your friend has tranſcribed. It is as follows:

* * * * * * * * * * * *

No. 261. *Saturday December* 29.

Γάμος γὰρ ἀνθρώποισιν ἐυκλαῖον κακόν.
Frag. vet. Po.

"MY father, whom I mentioned in my firſt ſpeculation, and whom I muſt always name with honour and gratitude, has very frequently talked to me upon the ſubject of matrimony. I was, in my younger years, engaged partly by his advice, and partly by my own inclinations, in the courtſhip of a perſon who had a great deal of beauty, and did not, at my firſt approaches, ſeem to have any averſion to me; but as my natural taciturnity hindered me from ſhewing myſelf to the beſt advantage, ſhe by degrees began to look upon me as a very ſilly fellow; and being reſolved to regard merit more than any thing elſe in the perſons who made their applications to her, ſhe married a captain of dragoons, who happened to be beating up for recruits in thoſe parts.

"This unlucky accident has given me an averſion to pretty fellows ever ſince, and diſcouraged me from trying my fortune with the fair ſex. The obſervations which I made in this conjuncture, and the repeated advices which I received at that time from the good old man above-mentioned, have produced the following eſſay on love and marriage.

"The pleaſanteſt part of a man's life is generally that which paſſes in courtſhip, provided his paſſion be ſincere, and the party beloved kind with diſcretion. Love, deſire, hope, all the pleaſing motions of the ſoul riſe in the purſuit.

"It is eaſier for an artful man, who is not in love, to perſuade his miſtreſs he has a paſſion for her, and to ſucceed in his purſuits, than for one who loves with the greateſt violence. True love has ten thouſand griefs, impatiences, and reſentments, that render a man unamiable in the eyes of the perſon whoſe affection he ſolicits; beſides, that it ſinks his figure; gives him fears, apprehenſions, and poorneſs of ſpirit, and often makes him appear ridiculous where he has a mind to recommend himſelf.

"Thoſe marriages generally abound moſt with love and conſtancy that are preceded by a long courtſhip. The paſſion ſhould ſtrike root, and gather ſtrength before marriage be grafted upon it. A long courſe of hopes and expectations fixes the idea in our minds, and habituates us to a fondneſs of the perſon beloved."

I can aſſure the public, and your ſouthern correſpondent is my witneſs, that the Spectator has many papers as good as this, nay ſome much better, which ſhall ſoon be accurately edited.

Yours, &c. *A H-t-r of Fr—d,*
and an Adm-r-r of Imp-d-nce.
North of the Tweed, Jan. 13.

POETRY.

ODE *to* TIME, *compoſed on New-year's Day* 1775.

O! Time! thou all-ſubduing king,
What ravages thy flights do bring!
Canſt thou in all thy empire boaſt
A gem, but while we view 'tis loſt?
What's all the world's gay tinſel'd pride?
A bubble that will ne'er abide:
The phantom of a paſſing day
Soon leaves its lord, and wings away:
Succeeding years roll ſwiftly on,
Yet man his taſk ſtill leaves undone;
With eager look views Folly's prize,
Which, while he ſtrives to catch it, flies:
Oft ſhewn her ſpecious promiſe vain,
Yet man's content to *feel* again;
While thou poſt rapidly away,
And brooks, like floods, of no delay.
The ſcepter'd monarch feels thy pow'r,
And gives his pomp and grandeur o'er:
Thy ſummons comes—ev'n princes muſt
Lie down in unreſpected duſt.
Heroes have 'ſcap'd from dangers free,
Have conquer'd troops, and all—but thee.
The fair, whom hundreds did adore,
Muſt hear thy call, and charm no more.
Ev'n I, who *now* thy conqueſts ſing,
Muſt one ſucceſſive inſtance bring,
That life's a dream, and mirth a joke,
A thread 'ere ſtrong approved—broke!
That hour with ſpeedy ſtrides will come,
When I muſt quit my mortal home,
In ſilence abdicate my lays,
Unconſcious *then* o!—*new-year's days.*
But tho' thou cl-ſe in deadly ſnare,
Thy pow'r's too weak to keep me there:
Thy waſte one day ſhall interrupt,
And force thee yield thy trophies up.
When winter's gloom, tho' dark 'ere-while,
Shall brighten into vernal ſmile;
When ev'ry cloud ſhall paſs away,
And open an unclouded day:
There dwells no pain, there lodge no fears
Of fleeting or of ending years.
Then thou of ev'ry ſeaſon, Lord,
Accept the off'ring I afford;
Forgive the follies of the paſt,
And grant theſe follies be the laſt.

Edin. Jan. 1. A. D———N.

The PROPHECIES *of* BALAAM *verſified.* [P. 80.]

The SECOND PROPHECY: *uttered from the Top of* Mount Piſgah.

O WHY doth anger kindle in thine eyes?
Why in thy breaſt ſuch dire reſentments riſe?
Hear me, once more: O king of *Moab*, hear!
Thou ſon of *Zippor!* unto me give ear.
God is not man, who may his word unſay,
Reverſe to-morrow what he ſpeaks to-day;
Nor like frail ſons of man, blind to events:
The Higheſt never changes, nor repents:
For ever one—his thoughts and counſels ſure,
As ſtable rocks, from age to age endure:
Engrav'd they ſtand as in eternal braſs:
Hath God once ſpoken? It ſhall come to paſs.
Whate'er his will, he works with pow'rful hand;
Who can the pleaſure of his heart withſtand?
To me he hath his ſacred mandate giv'n;
And who am I that dare contend with heav'n?
His lips divine the bleſſing have expreſt;
Behold he bleſſes, and they ſhall be bleſt.
Lo! theſe well pleas'd he views with pitying eyes,
As loving father the dear child ſurveys:
All Jacob's guilt he covers from his ſight,
The ſin of Iſrael is not brought to light.
His tents a cloud and wall of fire incloſe,
That darts deſtruction on his hoſtile foes.
His God with him in dazzling glory dwells,
And all the camp with ſong and gladneſs fills:
I hear, I hear the rapt'rous ſhouts ariſe!
They burſt aloud, and pierce the lofty ſkies.
As when a croud a ſolemn triumph ſing,
And hail the victor, while the mountains ring;
Or when a king is with glad pæans crown'd,
While with the ſhouts the echoing rocks reſound,
From Egypt's coaſts, inhoſpitable land!
God brought him forth with an almighty hand:
His voice the earth, and winds, and floods obey'd;
For them the darling pride of Egypt bled:
The roaring ſeas for them a path prepar'd;
The wond'ring nations trembled as they heard.
On ſhall they march with unabating ſtrength,
And ſettle in the promis'd land at length.
Nor force nor art 'gainſt Jacob can prevail;
Inchantments ceaſe, and divinations fail.
Sooner ſhall charms the rolling ocean bind,
Arreſt the ſun, or ſtop the blowing wind,
Than blaſt the ſucceſs of his warlike arms,
Confound his ſtrength, or fill him with alarms.
Thro' ev'ry age, thro' ev'ry diſtant clime,
They ſhall rehearſe the wonders of this time:
The ſons unborn in tranſport ſhall exclaim,
What hath God wrought! how glorious is his name!
Before his face each foe, appall'd, ſhall fly,
And at his feet in proſtrate heaps ſhall lie:
As when the lion with majeſtic mien,
Rears his huge bulk, and ſtalks along the plain,
Nor lies he down, until, with hideous roar,
He tear the prey, and drink the clotted gore,

ODE *to the River* ORR *in* GALLOWAY.

SWEET ORR, thou parent gentle ſtream!
Where firſt kind nature's genial beam
Unclos'd my weak and ſtaring eyes,
Then ſtrangers to their kindred ſkies:

Where firſt in careleſs youth I ſtray'd
To taſte the *ſweets* of ev'ry glade,
To hear the tender woodland lay,
Or view thine amber current's way;

Oft on thy banks, with daiſies crown'd,
The bliſs I feel no more I found—
The fleeting form heav'n once did call,
Then bade for e'er the curtain fall:

Then Diſcontent was ne'er a gueſt,
Nor Envy in my little breaſt
Did lurk in ſecret to deſtroy
My ſoft tranquillity and joy.

Along yon thick embow'ring grove,
Young Fancy bade the fairies rove:
Beneath pale Phœbe's glimm'ring ray
Their idle feats of knighthood play.

Oft by yon ivy-veſted wall,
Once witneſs to a baron's call,
At eve I've ſhudder'd as I paſt,
And deem'd a ghoſt in ev'ry blaſt.

So at yon ford, in darkſome night,
Where periſh'd ſome ill-fated wight,
Ween'd black, thy guilty waters roll,
And harrow up the coward's ſoul.

What time with ſweat his limbs beclad,
Nocturnal ſtorms moleſt his head,
A thouſand mournful ſounds he hears,
The vain creation of his fears.

Should thick external horrors riſe,
Firm treads the *favour'd of the ſkies*,
Who, looking inwards, ſure to find
The plaudit of a guiltleſs mind.

Ah me! theſe childiſh ſeaſons fled,
Leave me to mourn each pleaſure dead:
While dandled on Affection's knee,
Harſh Fortune aim'd her ſhafts at me.

The angry dæmon could not brook
To ſee me ſmiling at her look,
So bury'd all the ſweets ſhe gave
Within my dear Charilla's grave.

Sweet ORR, farewel! I muſt begone,
Since ev'ry mirthful motive's flown:
Thy banks, unus'd to ſtrains of woe,
My plaintive ſong ſhall never know.

Can e'er Oblivion's toothful rage
Eraze theſe ſcenes of infant age?
Theſe pleaſant ſcenes, which rooted dwell
In mem'ry's ever grateful cell!

Sweet ſtream, adieu! my village' pride!
Fate calls with voice muſt be obey'd:
The tears which recollection brings,
Bedew the poet while he ſings.

In future life paſt days of eaſe,
To live again ſhall fancy pleaſe:
Hopeleſs but thus the like to know,
Till ſtreams and ſorrows ceaſe to flow.

Edin. Dec. 23. 1774. D. G.

EPILOGUE *to* The Romance of an Hour. *Written by Mr* KELLY; *and ſpoken by Mrs* BULKLEY. [P. 81]

SOMEBODY ſays, but I forget his name,
That howe'er faults or follies we may blame,
We're all in turn, tho' all extremely wiſe,
The very things we laugh at, or deſpiſe—
The bold fox-hunter, juſt come up to town,
From——"Yoiks, hark forward," loves to ſeem a clown:
Thro' pride tears up politeneſs by the roots—
Ne'er combs his hair—and viſits you in boots—
Milkſops alone he thinks their forms ſhould deck,
And ſcorns the man that fears to break a neck—
In three months time, how alter'd is his note,
His head's all wings, or bak'd in papilotte—
The honeſt buckſkin, which once clear'd the ditches,
Our modern Nimrod turns to ſattin breeches;
And grown half female, wondrous to relate!
He ſcreams in ſlumber at a five-barr'd gate.
The city buck, accuſtom'd long to bruiſe,
Who ſwears at France, and damns all "parley-voos;"
If but one week from Margate led at moſt,
To ſwill and ſmuggle on the Flemiſh coaſt,
Returning bawls in ev'ry dowdy's face—
"Comment charmante, quelle raviſſant grace! [*Spoken in the Engliſh accent.*
And in due courſe from Aldgate to the Strand,
Raves of a *cottilloon* and *allemand*.
Monſieur, indeed, with cockney is quite even,
Tho' much to joke upon this nation given—
He calls a Briton—"Barbare, Unbeliet!"
Yet leaves his frogs with rapture for roaſt beef;
And finds a ready fortune to be made is,
In rouge for men, and perriwigs for ladies.
At foul corruption Surly tears his throat—
He ſcorns to give a ſhilling for a vote;
But mark the riot of the county round,
And ev'ry voice has coſt him twenty pound.
There ſome, who think our liberties divine,
Will eat them thro' in turkey or in chine;—

And others, while at venal tools they rail,
Drown their poor country in a butt of ale.
But while our bards these gen'ral faults make known,
Pray let them hear a little of their own.
How many authors of our modern stage
Affect to vie the wonders of their age,
By bare translations from Moliere, Corneille,
Racine, and numbers needless here to tell?—
Yet each a jackdaw, dress in foreign plumes,
On his own beauty fancily perfumes:
Looks on the parent bird with haughty eyes,
From whom intirely he purloin'd his dyes;
Or falsely tells us, when he comes to print,
That *all* is *first'n*—he *borrow'd* but a *hint*—
Ah! that these daws were fortunately tost on
Thy coasts, Connecticut! or thine, O Boston!
Their noblest flights thou might'st for ever mar,
And spoil their feathers with a little tar.—
Whether by policy or justice led,
A diff'rent path our author means to tread;
And tho' a petty dealer, will not sell
As his own goods, a thought of MARMONTEL—
The timid ZELIDA you saw to-night,
In that great master first beheld the light;
And if you hail her now dramatic morn,
I'll ever bless the moment she was born.

THE REVIEW.

A FRIENDLY ADDRESS *to all* REASONABLE AMERICANS, *on the Subject of our political Confusions: In which the necessary Consequences of a steddy opposing the King's Troops, and of a general Non-importation, are fairly stated.* 8vo.

THIS writer declares himself to be an American; one who has often gloried in the title, who loves his country as much, and has as great a regard for his honour as any of his brethren. He, however, treats the late conduct of his countrymen with much severity, and then proceeds to point out the consequences of a continuance in their opposition to the parent state. The following are some of his arguments:

THE proper dispute subsisting between Great Britain and any of her colonies, excepting that of the Massachusett's-bay, is only *de Lana Caprina*, about an act imposing a duty of three-pence a pound upon tea. This is the only ground we have for complaining of the administration; and yet this has occasioned, throughout our colonies, such an indecent and violent opposition to government, as is truly astonishing. Can such a behaviour, on so slight a provocation, proceed from dutiful and loyal subjects? No; it is impossible. Whatever we may think, or say, of ourselves, if we had any true principles of loyalty, or any tolerable sense of the duty that is due to the supreme legislative power, under which the providence of God, and our consent, have placed us, no trifling consideration could prevail with us to behave towards it in so petulant and disrespectful a manner. But there is too much reason to believe, that our minds are unprincipled, and our hearts disposed for rebellion. Ever since the reduction of Canada, we have been bloated with a vain opinion of our own power and importance. Our ease has produced pride and wantonness. We have been intoxicated with such large draughts of liberty, as our constitutions would not bear; and, under this intoxication, we have conceited that all the privileges indulged us were the effects of fear. From thinking, we have proceeded to speaking disrespectfully of our mother country; and our language now is,—"It is contrary to reason and nature, that the petty island of Britain should govern, and give laws to the extensive and mighty regions of America."

Yet whatever time may produce, at present the petty island of Britain is able to govern ten such Americas as this, if she will exert her power. But she wishes by lenity, and forbearance, and indulgence, (I will venture to use these words, notwithstanding her demand of a duty of three-pence a pound upon her tea, if we see fit to make use of it,) I say, she wishes by lenity, forbearance, and indulgence, to secure our affections, and to render us sensible, that our greatest political happiness must arise from her smiles and fostering protection. We should be fully convinced of this, were it not for our ignorance, and want of consideration; and willing to confess it, were it not for our pride. But if we determine to deny her authority, or to question her right to command us, she will prove to the world, and bring us to con-

feſs, that though ſhe is antient, ſhe is not ſuperannuated or exhauſted; and that ſhe ſtill poſſeſſes the ſpirit and vigour that have animated her beſt years.

Were ſhe only to do nothing, but barely to leave the colonies to themſelves with their jarring principles, intereſts, and projects; we ſhould ſoon ſee province waging war againſt province, and our country would be involved in ſuch miſery and diſtreſs as are beyond all our preſent conceptions. Should it be known abroad that Great Britain had withdrawn her protection, and would no longer intereſt herſelf in our preſervation and ſafety, within the compaſs of one year our ſea-ports would be ravaged, and our veſſels plundered or ſeized as ſoon as they left our harbours. We ſhould therefore ſoon ſee the neceſſity of purchaſing the protection of ſome maritime power, and on terms not of our propoſing, but of theirs; and which could never be able to ſecure us againſt any hoſtile attempts of Great Britain, ſhould ſhe ſee fit to make any; while ſhe maintains that empire of the ſea which ſhe now holds, and of which all the maritime powers of the world are unable to diſpoſſeſs her.

But, replies the ignorant and deluded Americans: "Notwithſtanding all that can be ſaid of the naval ſtrength of Great Britain, it is aſſerted by our patriotic leaders, and we have reaſon to think, that theſe colonies, of themſelves, are able to withſtand all her force." The judgment of Heaven viſibly appears in this dreadful infatuation. It was but a few years ago, that we believed, and found by experience, that the colonies were unable to withſtand the militia of Canada, ſupported by a few regiments of regular troops from France. That this was the general opinion, moſt of us may remember; and it is evident from the meſſages that paſſed between governor Shirley and the houſe of repreſentatives of Boſton, from the addreſs of the aſſembly of Virginia to the king at the beginning of the late war, and from many other authentic documents of that period. The colonies then humbly and ardently implored, that Great Britain would ſpeedily ſtep in to their reſcue, and preſerve them from a deſtruction that threatened to overwhelm them. Their prayers were ſoon heard; and what was the conſequence we all know. The ſtrong bulwarks and fortreſſes of Canada were ſtormed, and the country conquered by the diſcipline and invincible bravery of but a ſmall part of the Britiſh troops.

There is no room to doubt, but ſuch an army as was employed in the reduction of Canada, would be more than ſufficient for the conqueſt of all the diſaffected American colonies, ſhould ſuch a reſolution become neceſſary in order to reduce them to obedience. For they are open and acceſſible on every quarter, and have not a ſingle fortreſs to cover them, nor one regiment of regular troops to defend them; and they are without military ſtores, without magazines, and without the ſkill that is neceſſary for ſupporting an army. Under ſuch circumſtances, what would the boaſted numbers of our inhabitants avail us againſt an attack from Great Britain: If an army was ſent in upon us, which a body of forty thouſand of our militia was unable to withſtand (for it is impoſſible that a greater number of undiſciplined men could act to advantage), it would be able to carry deſolation through the whole country; and all the men in the colonies, were they firmly united, would not be able to oppoſe it. But yet, if the army here ſuppoſed ſhould be found unequal to the deſign of reducing the colonies, Great Britain could ſend of her own troops a ſecond of equal ſtrength, to the aſſiſtance of the firſt; to theſe ſhe could add a third of Heſſians, a fourth of Hanoverians, and ſo on till the work were completed. She could eaſily take poſſeſſion of all our ſea coaſts where our wealth is principally ſeated, and force us to fly into the back parts of the country for immediate ſafety. There an army of Canadians might be ordered to meet us, and unnumbered tribes of ſavages might be let looſe upon us at the ſame time, while our lands would lie uncultivated, our ſtores exhauſted, our families unſheltered, and thoſe that happened to eſcape the ſword, glittering and flaming both in the front and rear of our ſettlements, would ſoon periſh by ſickneſs or famine.

All that is here mentioned Great Britain is able to do; and all this I believe ſhe would do, ſhould ſhe be obliged to enter into a war with the colonies—provided the Americans had reſolution and firmneſs enough (for ſo ſome would call it) to hold out to ſuch extremity. But I am too well acquainted with their cha-

racter, to expect that they would prove thus obſtinate in the day of trial. When they come to find that on their ſide there can be no proſpect of victory, but that every day muſt deepen their diſtreſs, and render their condition worſe and worſe, their natural underſtandings will return to them, and irreſiſtibly plead the neceſſity of a ſubmiſſion as ſoon as poſſible. In that caſe happy would it be for them if they could be conſidered only as conquered enemies: but, alas! they muſt be viewed in the light of vanquiſhed rebels, and treated accordingly. Their leaders muſt be given up into the executioner's hands: confiſcations of their eſtates, forfeited by rebellion, muſt follow, and all muſt be left at the mercy of their vanquiſhers. When one people is conquered by another in war, private property is reſtored to its former poſſeſſors; but when rebellions are cruſhed, the moſt to be expected is, that the lives of thoſe that belong to the lower claſſes will be ſpared.

To this wretched and accurſed ſtate of rebellion, the principles that have been propagated, and ſeveral ſteps that have been taken in the American colonies directly tend. Nay, a rebellion is evidently commenced in New-England, in the county of Suffolk, without room for retreating. The inhabitants of that large and populous county have openly bid defiance to the united authority of the king, lords, and commons, aſſembled in parliament; they have moſt contemptuouſly rejected the regulations of their courts of juſtice, &c. eſtabliſhed by parliament; and not only ſo, but they have ſet up, in direct oppoſition to their authority, a government of their own. In the ſpirit of outrageous licentiouſneſs, they have compelled, by brutal violence, thoſe reſpectable gentlemen, that held commiſſions under the crown, to reſign them in forms of their own indicting, and to relinquiſh their ſtations; and they have appointed others of the lawleſs factions and turbulent diſpoſitions with themſelves to fill their places, till their long projected republic ſhall be fixed, which is the glorious object. They have already, if we may believe credible information, marked out the inland town of Worceſter for the ſeat of this republic: they are now collecting an artillery for its defence; and ſome of them have nominated the man who is to be their protector.

Whether this be ſo or not, it appears from authentic intelligence, dated Boſton, Sept. 27. that they have done as bad; for the ſelect men, and the committee of correſpondence have proclaimed the king's troops to be public enemies, and declared to Mr Scot, that he deſerved immediate death for ſelling warlike ſtores to them; and the people actually did aſſemble to put this ſentence in execution, but Mr Scot was ſo fortunate as to make his eſcape. And beſides this, the king's general and governor farther complains of their continual acts of hoſtility. "Orders (ſays he) are given to prevent all ſupplies for Engliſh troops: Straw purchaſed for their uſe is daily burnt, veſſels with bricks ſunk, carts with wood overturned, and thus even the king's property is deſtroyed in every manner in which it can be effected:" and he juſtly obſerves, that all this is "not the effect of raſh tumult, but of evident ſyſtem."

Now theſe rebellious republicans, theſe hair-brained fanatics, as mad and diſtracted as the Anabaptiſts of Munſter, are the people whom the American colonies wiſh to ſupport. It ſeems to be a mark of judicial infatuation inflicted on us by the righteous judgment of Almighty God, that we of the other colonies can think of eſpouſing ſuch a cauſe, and of riſking every thing that is dear, againſt ſuch inexpreſſible odds—in ſupport of a ſcheme which all of us, but a few Preſbyterians and Independents, in our hours of reflection, if we have any, muſt deſpiſe and abhor.

The hopes of all moderate and conſiderate perſons among us, whoſe numbers I believe are not ſmall, were long fixed upon the general American congreſs. They imagined it to be the buſineſs and deſign of this grand committee of committees, to find out ſome way conſiſtent with our claims for obtaining the reſtoration of our common tranquillity, and a happy reconciliation of Great Britain to her colonies. The known character of ſome gentlemen appointed as delegates, and the ſuppoſed character of moſt of the others, led us to expect from them all that we wanted; and to believe that the united wiſdom of the Americans would ſhine in full ſplendor at the congreſs; and that the prudence and policy of the counſels there taken would be ſuch as would have done ho-

nour to an aſſembly of the greateſt ſages of antiquity: but—the poor Americans are doomed to diſappointment. The firſt diſcovery of the ſentiments of the congreſs was ſhocking. Every thing was kept ſecret for ſome weeks; and we flattered ourſelves with hoping for the beſt: but when the news arrived at Philadelphia, that the people of Suffolk had openly revolted from their allegiance to the king and his government, in a ſudden tranſport of joy the veil of the congreſs was drawn back, and a myſtery revealed that filled the minds of many with ſurpriſe and aſtoniſhment; the myſtery was, that the gentlemen of the congreſs, in whom we confided as the faithful guardians of the ſafety, as well as rights of America, were diſpoſed to enter into league, offenſive and defenſive, with its worſt enemies the New England and other Preſbyterian republicans. This fact is notorious to the world. It can neither be denied nor palliated; for they haſtily and eagerly publiſhed (and it was the firſt thing that they did publiſh) their cordial approbation of the Suffolk reſolves for erecting an independent government in New-England; and recommended to the Americans the ſupport of thoſe meaſures with united efforts. From that time every moderate man among us has deſpaired of ſeeing any good produced by the congreſs; and from that time every thing that was bad has been growing worſe.

Ex illo fluere, ac retro ſublapſa referri, ſpes Danaum.

Friends, countrymen, and fellow-ſubjects! let me intreat you to rouſe up at laſt from your ſlumber, and to open your eyes to the danger that ſurrounds you—the danger of your being hurried into a ſtate of rebellion before you are aware of it, and of ſuffering all that reſentment which a mighty nation can diſcharge upon a defenceleſs people. Whether Great Britain did right or not in impoſing the duty on tea, or whether we pay it or not, are matters of trifling conſequence: but whether we ſhall bring down upon our own heads the full weight of her vengeance, and undergo all the horrors of a civil war, or not, are matters of dreadful importance to us. If you perſiſt in the ſteps which many of you have taken; and eſpecially if you go on to encourage the New-England fanatics to attack the king's troops whenever they can meet them, the time cannot be diſtant, in which both you and they will be legally proclaimed rebels and traitors—they as principals, and you as their abettors. You may ſtill profeſs yourſelves to be his majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, as you did in your late reſolves; and as the leaders in the grand rebellion of 1641 did, in their meſſages to the king immediately after the battle of Edgehill, where they had fought againſt him in perſon; but this will not ſcreen you from vengeance. No. Havock will be the cry; and the dogs of war will be let looſe to tear out your vitals. Then, if not before then, the dæmon of diſcord will riſe to diſtract you. Brother muſt fight againſt brother, and friend againſt the friend of his boſom. In ſhort, the country that is now "fair as Eden," will become a field of blood, overſpread with deſolation and ſlaughter. I tremble, and my blood retires to my heart at the proſpect of ſuch amazing anguiſh and miſery. The ſun and the moon begin already to be darkened, and the ſtars to withdraw their ſhining. O all-pitying heaven! Preſerve me! Preſerve my friends! Preſerve my country!

The Morality of Shakeſpeare's *Drama illuſtrated: By Mrs* Griffith. 8vo.

WE have peruſed this performance with great pleaſure and approbation: the very conception of ſuch a work merits applauſe, and the admirable conduct and execution of it are intitled to more. This lady hath placed her author in a more reſpectable point of view than any of his numerous commentators have ever inſtructed us to conſider him in, though ſome of them were *divines*. She ventures a little into their province too in ſome places, where ſhe throws out ſtrictures againſt Atheiſts and Freethinkers, whom ſhe very properly treats, not with argument or indignation, but with ridicule and contempt.

I ſhall quote but one inſtance.—Speaking of the Epicurean doctrine, as given us by Lucretius, ſhe ſays, "The pride of 'men is amazing! Rather than acknow-'ledge any intelligence ſuperior to them-'ſelves, they chuſe to refer the manifeſt 'wiſdom and power of the Deity to blind 'chance and inert nature alone!

And call God's Providence a lucky hit.

'And yet this can hardly be deemed

'impious, *becauſe it is ſo miſerably* 'ſtupid."

She very juſtly aſſerts Shakeſpeare to have been the greateſt maſter of nature, ethics, and philoſophy, that ever wrote; and we may as juſtly pronounce his female commentator to be one of his beſt ſcholars. It is hard to ſay whether this lady has done moſt honour to her author or herſelf throughout the work; but thus much may be well enough ſuppoſed, that, were he now alive, he might be prompted to ſpeak himſelf in the words he has made Catharine uſe to a perſon of the ſame name in his Henry the eighth:

After my death I wiſh no other herald,
No other ſpeaker of my living actions,
To keep mine honour from corruption,
But ſuch an honeſt chronicler as Griffith.

The poſtſcript and parallel ſubjoined to the firſt part of Henry IV. will equally ſerve as a proof of the author's manner and execution.

"I thought that my taſk was done with this play when I had got to the end of it; but there is ſomething ſo very great, ſingular, and attractive, in the two principal characters of this hiſtoric piece, that I find a pleaſure in keeping them ſtill in view, and contemplating them both in my mind.

"Whenever Hotſpur or the prince filled the ſcene, which they are either of them, ſingly, ſufficient to do, I confeſs that my heart was ſenſible of ſuch an emotion, as Sir Philip Sidney ſaid he uſed to be affected with, on a peruſal of the old ballad of Chevy-chace, *as if he had heard the ſound of a trumpet.* Perhaps the following obſervation may better account for my impulſe:

"Women are apt to eſteem the antient virtue of courage at an higher rate than men in general are: and this for theſe two eſpecial reaſons: the firſt, that it is peculiarly neceſſary to their perſonal defence; and the next, that their weakneſs induces them to form a ſublimer notion of this quality than the ſtronger (and therefore braver) ſex may naturally be ſuppoſed to compliment it with. Men, feeling the principles of it in their own breaſts, conceive no very ſupernatural idea of it, while women, having no ſuch premiſſes to reaſon from, look on it as ſomething more than human.

"Theſe reflections, with the frequent occaſions I have had throughout this play, of comparing the two heroes of it with each other, have tempted me to undertake a parallel between them, after the manner of Plutarch, which, however, I did not mean to have given the reader, as hinted above, till I ſhould come to the end of the ſecond play after this, where our author has concluded all he had to ſay about Henry V.

"But as Shakeſpeare has opened enough of this prince's character here, to ſupply ſufficient materials for the compariſon, and that his unfortunate rival is juſt ſlain, I thought the parallel might have a better effect on the mind of my readers in this place, than it would be likely to produce after the delay had ſuffered the impreſſion of Hotſpur's qualities to wear out of their remembrance."

A Parallel between Hotſpur *and* Henry *Prince of* Wales*.

"THEY are both equally brave; but the courage of Hotſpur has a greater portion of fierceneſs in it.—The prince's magnanimity is more heroic. The firſt reſembles Achilles; the latter is more like Hector. The different principles, too, of their actions help to form and juſtify this diſtinction, as the one invades, and the other defends a right. Hotſpur ſpeaks nobly of his rival Douglas to his face, but after he has become his friend; the prince does the ſame of Hotſpur behind his back, and while he is ſtill his enemy.

"They both of them poſſeſs a ſportive vein of humour in the ſcenes of common life; but Hotſpur ſtill preſerves the ſurly and refractory haughtineſs of his character throughout, even in the relaxations he indulges himſelf in. The prince has more of eaſe and nature in his delivering himſelf over to mirth and diſſipation, without reſerve. Hotſpur's feſtivity ſeems to reſemble that of Hamlet, as aſſumed merely to relieve an anxiety of mind, and cover ſanguinary purpoſes; the prince's gaiety, like that of Faulconbridge, appears to be more genuine, ariſing from natural temper, and an healthful flow of ſpirits. The prince is Alcibiades—Percy is—himſelf."

In fine, we cannot give this *code of morals*, to borrow her own expreſſion, an higher character than to ſay, it is by much the beſt of this lady's many ingenious writings.

* *In King* John.

HISTORY OF THE TIMES.

JANUARY 5.—*to* 12.

TURKEY.

Conſtantinople, Nov. 17.

"SINCE the Ruſſians have diſcharged the Albanians, the navigation among the Archipelagos becomes daily more and more dangerous; and thoſe ſeas now ſwarm with pirates, who attack all the veſſels they meet with. The corſairs, who are moſt to be feared, are commanded by Manole and Doli Conſtantine, both Dulcignotes: they have already taken three French ſhips, and maſſacred all the crews. Another veſſel, in endeavouring to avoid theſe villains, was wrecked on the coaſt of Caramania, where the inhabitants killed all but two of the men.

"The court of France is reſolved to reinforce the ſquadron which it maintains in thoſe ſeas, for the protection of its trade, with two frigates; and the captains of all the king's ſhips have orders to put all the pirates whom they take to the ſword. The Chevalier de Vintimille, who commands the Corvette la Sardine, has executed this order on one pirate which he took off Sciros, and cauſed all the crew, conſiſting of ſixty men, to be drowned. The Porte has reſolved to aſſiſt France in extirpating theſe pirates, and to ſend out two zebecs againſt them."

RUSSIA.

Peterſburgh, Dec. 13. "The empreſs was ſo much indiſpoſed on Sunday laſt, that ſhe could not appear in public on that day; nor did the knights of the order of St Andrew, whoſe feſtival it was, dine at court, as uſual: but in the evening there was a ball, at which their imperial highneſſes the great duke and ducheſs were preſent. The empreſs is now ſo far recovered as to be able to appear at the court-theatre this evening."

Peterſburgh, Dec. 16. "Notwithſtanding the ſevere froſt, and the extraordinary inconveniencies of the ſeaſon, our court will ſet out on the 6th of January for Moſcow; but the true reaſon of this fatiguing journey is to receive the Turkiſh ambaſſador, and to give him an audience at a place remote from the foreign miniſters, ſo that the moſt eſſential part of the treaty may remain a ſecret to the reſt of the courts in Europe. We now begin to believe that France was the only mediator to that peace, ſo detrimental to every ſtate of Europe; and that the other two allies of Ruſſia have actually been diſappointed."

POLAND.

Dreſden, Dec. 14. "The preſent winter is the coldeſt and ſevereſt that has been known in Saxony ſince the year 1740, hard weather ſeldom beginning in this country before Chriſtmas or the 6th of January; but this year it began to freeze on the 11th of November laſt, and has gradually increaſed till within theſe three days, when the air grew milder. The Elbe has been ſhut and frozen up theſe three weeks, ſo that no wood can come down the river, as uſual, from Bohemia, nor are the mills able to work; and there being but two windmills in the neighbourhood of Dreſden, bread and wood are exceſſively dear. There is at preſent a deep ſnow on the ground."

GERMANY.

Bautzen, Dec. 15. "The government, by virtue of an imperial and royal reſcript, have eſtabliſhed a commiſſion of ſixteen perſons, viz. three eccleſiaſtics of the firſt rank, three members of the nobility, three burgo-maſters, ſix ſenators, and the reſt choſen from the other claſſes of citizens, who are to take account of all the poor that are able to work, and to provide them therewith, and the infirm are to be furniſhed with cloaths and ſupport. All foreign beggars are to be ſent out of the country."

Lubeck, Dec. 26. "Some public papers mention, that the court of Denmark had ſent troops to take poſſeſſion of ſeveral places in Holſtein, which extend to the river Eider, and belong to this city, its chapter, and the rich convents of St John and the Holy Ghoſt; but this is only a falſe report, to which the following may have given riſe:—— The city of Lubeck, its chapter, and the above mentioned convents, have poſſeſſed, as donations, both villages and eſtates in Holſtein, without ever having paid the leaſt contribution, notwithſtan-

ding the demand made by the reigning prince of Holſtein; but the king of Denmark aſſerts now that, as theſe villages are part of Holſtein, they ought to contribute to the ſecurity of the country. "Our anceſtors (ſays he) may have either given or ſold eſtates to the city and chapter of Lubeck, but the territorial right, and that of the ſovereign, cannot be alienated; and we reclaim them, in order to make proper arrangement for the ſecurity of Holſtein." The city and chapter of Lubeck anſwered his Daniſh majeſty, "That the duchy of Holſtein, which had been ceded to him, making part of the empire, it was the latter who could alone give laws to them, or take away their privileges."

Berlin, Dec. 27. "His Pruſſian majeſty, having been indiſpoſed on Saturday laſt, did not appear on Sunday at his levee, nor dine, as uſual, with the queen and the royal family; but yeſterday was ſo well as to have company both at dinner and ſupper; and to-day his majeſty is ſaid to be perfectly recovered."

FRANCE.

Paris, Dec. 30. "Many reformations are going to be made in affairs of government, particularly with reſpect to the finances. The archbiſhops and biſhops are going to be reduced in their revenues, which are to be proportioned to their places of reſidence, which, for the future, are to be within their own dioceſes, and not at court or in the capital. The produce of the propoſed reduction will, it is ſaid, amount to double the free gift the clergy has hitherto paid, which is to be ſuppreſſed; and the inferior clergy are to be put upon a better footing. All the royal abbies are to be fixed at 3000 livres, and the ſurplus, together with the ſavings of the archbiſhopricks and biſhopricks, will raiſe an annual ſum of 6,000,000 livres, which is to be diſpoſed of in penſions of 1000 livres each, to officers who have diſtinguiſhed themſelves in the ſervice of their country, and thoſe whoſe age and infirmities oblige them to retire from the army; and in marriage portions of 3000 livres to the daughters of decayed gentlemen, in order to encourage population."

SPAIN.

Genoa, Dec. 14. "Our laſt letters from Cadiz import, that they had advice from Ceuta, that the Moors, after receiving a reinforcement, had begun to batter that place in form, but with little ſucceſs, being greatly annoyed by the continual fire from the batteries of the place, as well as by the frequent ſallies of the Spaniards, who had deſtroyed ſeveral hundreds of the Moors."

Hague, Jan. 6. "Some letters of good authority from Madrid, mention the king of Spain's having abdicated his crown in favour of the prince of Aſturias, who, they ſay has taken the reigns of government under the title of Charles IV.; but that this change of government will occaſion none in the political ſyſtem of that monarchy, reſpecting the preſervation of the general peace."

PORTUGAL.

Oporto, Dec. 16. "On Sunday laſt, the 11th inſtant, this river roſe fifteen feet perpendicular in about ſeven hours, filling the ſtreets near the quays on both ſides; many ware-houſes were thrown down; pipes of wine and various other merchandizes were carried away; and in ſome places the inhabitants had but juſt time to eſcape at the tops of their houſes. On Monday the torrent was extremely rapid: about one o'clock the ſhip Kirby Hall, James George maſter, with only one man on board, laden with 262 pipes of wine for London, and ready to ſail, was forced from her moorings, and in a few minutes daſhed to pieces on the bar; however, by the courage and ſkill of the pilots at St John's, the man was ſaved.

"At night the following ſhips were driven over the bar, viz. the George, Madgſon, from Carolina, with rice, bound to Topſham; and had 110 pipes of wine on board. The Bacchus, Hill, from Hull, with ſundry merchandizes, bound to Hull, with 107 pipes of wine on board. The Amelia, Stephenſon, from Quebec, with wheat, bound to Briſtol. And a Portugueſe ſhip called the St Joano Evangeliſt, Joao. Pinto da Rocha, maſter, bound to Bahia, laden, and valued at between 30 and 40,000 l. This laſt ſtruck on a ſand near the bar, where ſhe ſtill remains.

"On Tueſday night the torrent abated; and, though the ſtream ſtill runs with great rapidity, boats begin to paſs. Some freſhes here have been known as high as this, but they always hitherto

came on gradually; none having ever been known so violent and so sudden.

"The losses are very considerable in wine, sugar, ships, houses, and merchandize of all sorts; though no certain calculation can as yet be made of the amount. However, we do not hear that any lives have been lost.

"His Britannic majesty's consul has taken the necessary measures for the recovery of such parts of the wrecks and merchandizes as can be found, in order to their being restored to the owners."

AMERICA.

From the NEW-YORK GAZETTE.

Quebec, Oct. 20. "A committee is arrived here from the English inhabitants in Montreal, who have met a committee of the inhabitants of this place, and are drawing up a petition to his majesty against the act of parliament for regulating the government of this province, and hope they will meet with success."

Williamsburgh, Nov. 10. "The following letter has been received by the hon. Peyton Randolph, Esq; from his excellency gov. Gage:

"*To the H.* PEYTON RANDOLPH, *Esq;*

Boston, Oct. 20. 1774.

"SIR,

"Representations should be made with candour, and matters stated exactly as they stand. People would be led to believe, from your letter to me of the 10th inst. that works were raised against the town of Boston, private property invaded, the soldiers suffered to insult the inhabitants, and the communication between the town and country shut up and molested.

"Nothing can be farther from the true situation of this place than the above state. There is not a single gun pointed against the town, no man's private property has been seized or hurt, except the king's, by the people destroying straw, brick, &c. bought for his service. No troops ever gave less cause for complaint, and greater care was never taken to prevent it; and such care and attention was never more necessary, from the insults and provocations daily given to both officers and soldiers. The communication between the town and country has been always free and unmolested, and is so still.

"Two works of earth have been raised at some distance from the town, wide of the road, and guns put in them. The remains of old works, going out of town, have been strengthened, and guns placed there likewise. People will think differently, whether the hostile preparations throughout the country, and the menaces of blood and slaughter, made it necessary; but I am to do my duty.

"It gives me pleasure that you are endeavouring at a cordial reconciliation with the mother-country; which, from what has transpired, I have despaired of. Nobody wishes better success to such measures than myself. I have endeavoured to be a mediator, if I could establish a foundation to work upon, and have strongly urged it to people here. To pay for the tea, and send a proper memorial to the king, would be a good beginning on their side, and give their friends the opportunity they seek to move in their support.

"I do not believe that menaces and unfriendly proceedings will have the effect which many conceive. The spirit of the British nation was high when I left England, and such measures will not abate it. But I should hope that decency and moderation here would create the same disposition at home: and I ardently wish that the common enemies to both countries may see, to their disappointment, that these disputes between the mother-country and the colonies have terminated like the quarrels of lovers, and increased the affection which they ought to bear to each other.

I am, Sir.

Your most obedient humble servant,

T. GAGE."

Charles-Town, Oct. 31. "The following is an account of the proceedings in the general committee chamber of the 20th instant:

"Whereas from the prospect of a non-importation agreement being entered into, there is great reason to apprehend, that some mercenary individuals, intending to take advantages of the public distress, are daily engrossing and buying up large quantities of goods with a view to keep the same for sale, and hereafter to raise or regulate the prices of them:—And it has been suggested, that commissions, seeming of this tendency, have been received from such persons, in some of our sister colonies.

"The general committee having taken the same into consideration, and be-

ing apprehenſive of ſome miſchievous conſequences, do recommend to, and requeſt of, the merchants, ſhop-keepers, and others in this colony:

"That they will endeavour to detect all ſuch engroſſers, and, to the utmoſt of their power, diſcourage and defeat their mercenary ſchemes; and that, if they ſhould receive any commiſſions of this tendency from any place whatever, they will decline executing the ſame.

"The general committee do alſo recommend to the merchants, ſhopkeepers, and others, as they prize the tranquillity and happineſs of America, that they will not take advantage of the diſtreſſes; but that they will be content with, and demand no more than the uſual advance upon ſuch goods and merchandize as they now have by them, or hereafter may be allowed to import. By order of the committee.

PETER TIMOTHY, Secretary."

"A large committee was, at the ſame time, appointed to ſee and purſue every meaſure that ſhall be neceſſary for the due obſervance of the above recommendations, &c."

Boſton, Dec. 10. "The Scarborough arrived the 3d, ſince which the Aſia and Boyne are come in; the Somerſet ſtill abſent.

"Political matters ſtill remain much in the ſame ſtate as the general congreſs left them, except fulfilling their directions relative to the arrival of veſſels from England after the firſt of December; committees being appointed in moſt towns to ſuperintend the ſale of all cargoes that arrive after that time, the ſurplus ariſing from which ſales, after paying the firſt coſt to the owners of the goods, is to be applied to the ſupport of the poor at Boſton.

"The provincial congreſs that was ſitting at Cambrige, near this, removed immediately on the arrival of the ſhips of war, and are now at Worceſter, which is about forty miles diſtant, thinking themſelves more ſecure there.

"The town of Boſton is now very quiet; the troops are all fixed in their quarters and proviſions of all kinds plenty and cheap."

ENGLAND.

LONDON, JANUARY 7.—TO 14.

According to the laſt advices from Hamburgh, the ſtrict union which has hitherto ſubſiſted between the three allied powers, is at an end; two of them, viz. the courts of Peterſbourg and Berlin, having concluded a private treaty of alliance, offenſive and defenſive, to which it is ſaid the court of London will accede. Theſe letters add, that the empreſs of Ruſſia and the king of Pruſſia are by no means pleaſed with the ceſſion of part of Moldavia and Walachia, made by the Ottoman Porte in favour of the houſe of Auſtria; and which the latter has ſent eight battalions of foot, and four regiments of huſſars, to take poſſeſſion of.

A letter from Leghorn, dated Dec. 10. ſays, "A few days ago arrived in our road a Dutch frigate of war, by which we learn the following intereſting piece of intelligence: About the month of May laſt, a Dutch Eaſt-Indiaman was found ſtranded on the coaſt of Japan by ſome fiſhers of that coaſt, who went on board of it, and finding it totally abandoned, they ſeized every thing on board, and carried it to the government of Japan; unluckily there was found a packet directed for the directors of the Dutch Eaſt India company, which was interpreted to the emperor by a Jeſuit, and which made ſome very important diſcoveries, ſo that the emperor immediately proclaimed war againſt the Dutch."

A letter from Carthagena, dated Dec. 15. ſays, "By letters from Melille, of the 9th inſt. we learn, that the king of Morocco appeared in perſon at the head of his army before that place on the 8th in the morning; that he immediately occupied the eminencies, and the day following began to throw ſome bombs into the town, but at ſo great a diſtance as to be of no effect.—We know not yet the quantity or the calibre of his artillery, of which we have not hitherto ſeen any but eight or ten pieces of cannon, of about ſix or eight poonders; and if he has not any larger for making this ſiege, he will probably fail in his enterprize."

In the provincial congreſs held at Cambridge in New England, Dec. 10. 1774, the delegates came to the following reſolutions:

"Inaſmuch as many ſtates have been taught by fatal experience, that powers delegated by the people for long periods have been abuſed, to the endangering the public rights and liberties: And this congreſs having juſt reaſon to ſuppoſe that their conſtituents, the good people

of this province, when they appointed their preſent delegates, were not apprehenſive that the buſineſs neceſſary to be done would require their attendance for any long time,

"Reſolved, That the adjournment of this congreſs on the 29th of October laſt was ordered and made from a due conſideration of the preſſing exigencies of the public affairs, and the evident neceſſity of further deliberation thereon;

"And whereas, for the reaſon firſt mentioned, it is not expedient that there ſhould be a further adjournment of this congreſs; therefore

"Reſolved, That after the buſineſs neceſſary to be immediately diſpatched ſhall be finiſhed, the congreſs be diſſolved.

"And this congreſs being deeply impreſſed with a ſenſe of the increaſing dangers which threaten the rights and liberties of the people of this province with total ruin, our adverſaries being ſtill indefatigable in their attempts to carry into execution their deep-laid plans for that wicked purpoſe; and conſidering the indiſpenſible neceſſity that an aſſembly of the province ſhould be very frequently ſitting, to conſult and deviſe meaſures for their own ſafety; therefore

"Reſolved, That it be, and it is hereby earneſtly recommended to the ſeveral towns and diſtricts in this province, that each of them do forthwith elect and depute as many members as to them ſhall ſeem neceſſary and expedient, to repreſent them in a provincial congreſs, to be held at Cambridge on the firſt day of February next enſuing; to be choſen by ſuch only as are qualified by law to vote for repreſentatives in the general aſſembly, and to be continued by adjournment, as they ſhall ſee cauſe, until the Tueſday next preceding the laſt Wedneſday in May next, and no longer; to conſult, deliberate, and reſolve upon ſuch further meaſures, as (under God) ſhall be effectual to ſave this people from impending ruin, and to ſecure thoſe ineſtimable liberties, derived to us from our anceſtors, and which it is our duty to preſerve for poſterity.

"And conſidering the great uncertainty of the preſent times, and that unexpected important events may take place, from whence it may be abſolutely neceſſary that the delegates who may be elected as above propoſed, ſhould meet ſooner than the day aforementioned, it is recommended to the ſeveral towns and diſtricts, that they inſtruct and authorize their ſaid delegates to aſſemble at Cambridge aforeſaid, or any other place, upon notice given them of the neceſſity thereof, by the delegates that may be choſen by the towns of Charles Town, Cambridge, Brookline, Roxbury, and Dorcheſter, or the majority of them, in ſuch way as they ſhall judge proper. And it is further recommended to the delegates to be elected, that they conform themſelves to ſuch inſtructions. Signed by order of the provincial congreſs,

JOHN HANCOCK, Preſ."

The following is a copy of a letter from the general congreſs to the agents, whoſe names are, Paul Wentworth, Eſq; Dr Benjamin Franklin, William Bollen, Eſq; Dr Arthur Lee, Thomas Life, Eſq; Edm. Burke, Eſq; Charles Garth, Eſq;

Philadelphia, Oct. 26.

"*Gentlemen*,

"We give you the ſtrongeſt proof of our reliance on your zeal and attachment to the happineſs of America, and the cauſe of liberty, when we commit the incloſed paper to your care.

"We deſire you will deliver the petition into the hands of his majeſty; and, after it has been preſented, we wiſh it may be made public through the preſs, together with the liſt of grievances. And as we hope for great aſſiſtance from the ſpirit, virtue, and juſtice of the nation, it is our earneſt deſire, that the moſt effectual care be taken, as early as poſſible, to furniſh the trading cities and manufacturing towns throughout the united kingdoms, with our memorial to the people of Great Britain.

"We doubt not but your good ſenſe and diſcernment will lead you to avail yourſelves of every aſſiſtance that may be derived from the advice and friendſhip of all great and good men, who may incline to aid the cauſe of liberty and mankind.

"The gratitude of Americans expreſſed in the incloſed vote of thanks, we deſire may be conveyed to the deſerving objects of it, in the manner that you think will be moſt acceptable to them.

"It is propoſed that another congreſs be held on the 10th of May next, at this place; but, in the mean time, we beg the favour of you, gentlemen, to tranſmit to the ſpeakers of the ſeveral aſſem-

blies the earlieſt information of the moſt authentic accounts you can collect, of all ſuch conduct and deſigns of the miniſtry or parliament as may concern America to know. We are, with unfeigned eſteem and regard, gentlemen, &c. By order, and in behalf of the congreſs,

HENRY MIDDLETON, Preſident."

A letter from Boſton, dated Dec. 10. ſays, "The town of Marblehead, at a full meeting on Monday the 7th ult. unanimouſly made choice of a large committee for executing the plans of the continental and provincial congreſſes. It likewiſe appointed a day for chuſing militia officers, and a committee for each company, to give perſonal warning to all on the alarm liſt for the purpoſe mentioned. Directions were given by the town to the clerk, for entering on the records ſuch perſons as ſhould by the province be conſidered and publiſhed as "rebels againſt the ſtate;" and to the conſtables and collectors to pay to Hon. Gardner, Eſq; the monies which they then had, or in future might have in their hands, belonging to the province; the advertiſements of the late treaſurer Gray being treated with the contempt due to one of the rebel liſt. A company and train of artillery will, by private ſubſcription, be likewiſe provided in ſaid town for the defence of American freedom."

A Circumſtantial ACCOUNT *of the* PROCEEDINGS *of the* NORTH AMERICAN MERCHANTS, *held laſt Wedneſday at the King's Arms Tavern, Cornhill.*

There was a very numerous and reſpectable appearance of the merchants, &c. trading to North America (conſiſting of between four and five hundred) for the purpoſe of the committee (appointed at the laſt meeting) reporting the particulars of a petition to be preſented to parliament in the preſent alarming ſituation of American affairs.

The buſineſs of the meeting was opened about eleven o'clock, by the reading of the petition, the ſubſtance of which was as follows:

'That ſtating to the houſe the ſeveral 'particulars of the extenſive trade carried on between this country and A'merica, as it reſpected the barter of 'commodities—the balance of caſh, as 'well as the negociation of exchange in 'ſeveral parts of Europe:—That next ſtated 'how this very extenſive trade was hurt 'by the ſeveral revenue bills affecting 'North America, paſſed ſince the re'peal of the ſtamp act to the year 1773. 'It then concluded by praying redreſs 'in theſe particulars, as well as in the 'operation of all other acts which may 'affect the general trade carried on be'tween this country and North Ameri'ca.' The whole was couched in decent, manly terms; and in point of ſtile, good ſenſe, and preciſion, ſhewed the committee appointed for drawing it up, every way equal to the great truſt delegated to them.

As ſoon as the petition was read, Mr Hayley made the following motion: "That the petition entitled, &c. &c. now read, be approved of." This opened a very long, yet an able and candid debate.

Mr Watſon ſaid, "he had no objection to the petition as far as it went; on the contrary, he highly approved of it, yet he was for adding a clauſe where the *late Quebec bill* ſhould be particularly expreſſed, and where the very great conſtitutional, as well as commercial evils reſulting from that bill, ſhould be marked out; that he ſaw no reaſon why ſo extenſive a province as Canada, the trade whereof was ſo very material to the intereſt of this country, ſhould be left out of ſo great a queſtion as the preſent; he therefore propoſed a clauſe, after "the operation of all other acts," "particularly ſpecifying the late Quebec bill."

Mr Sargent anſwered Mr Watſon in a very eloquent and forcible manner, and ſhewed, that the words in the petition, "as in the operation of all other acts," were fully competent to any clauſes that could be added, either in favour of Quebec or Boſton.

Mr Nutt acquainted the meeting, that "probably he could reconcile this difference of opinion, by informing them, on almoſt poſitive grounds, that the king, by a clauſe in the Quebec bill impowering him to allow, at his pleaſure, of the trial by juries, and the uſe of the *habeas corpus* act, had either ſent out, or was preparing to ſend out, an order for their continuing in full force; and that as the Quebec bill was not to take place till the firſt of May next, the ill effects of that bill, in theſe two particulars, would never operate."——This being the caſe, he imagined it would be found leſs neceſſary to inſiſt on adding the clauſe reſpecting Quebec.——Several other gentlemen,

for theſe and other reaſons, were for having no additions made to the petition.

Mr Watſon replied to them, and urged with greater confidence the neceſſity of particularizing Quebec. He ſaid, "though our preſent gracious ſovereign might feel for his Canadian ſubjects in allowing them the uſe of juries, and the *habeas corpus* act, this nation might one day or other have a ſovereign of a different way of thinking; he was, therefore, not for leaving things on ſuch an uncertain ground as the will of a prince, but for having them eſtabliſhed with more certainty and preciſion."

The queſtion, "That this petition, entitled, &c. &c. now read, be approved of," was then put, and carried *unanimouſly*.

A reſolution was then agreed to, "that the petition be forthwith engroſſed, that the committee do attend for that purpoſe, and that three Canadian merchants, Mr Watſon, Mr Strettel, and Mr Hunter, be added to the committee already appointed, for the purpoſe of inſtructing counſel, and preparing ſuch evidences and allegations as the petition warranted them to ſupport." This reſolution was followed by another, "that the petition after being engroſſed, ſhould lie at that houſe for ſigning; and that the committee ſhould afterwards advertiſe the meeting at large of the day they intended preſenting it." A motion of thanks to the chairman being then unanimouſly agreed to, the aſſembly adjourned.

Lieut. col. Preſcot, of the 17th regiment of foot, is arrived in 25 days from gen. Gage.

The greateſt part of the artillery, we are told, will ſoon be removed from the province of Maſſachuſett's Bay, and the blocade by ſea is to be continued, with the addition of more ſhipping.

PRIZES drawn in the State Lottery from 50l. and upwards.

No.	L.	No.	L.
31,563	5000	34,484	500
49,379	2000	38,061	500
46,994	2000	5958	500
37,279	1000	16,626	500
46,079	1000	49,472	500
9585 L. dr.	1000		

Prizes of 100l.

17,013	43,498	46,293	39,630	43,044
50,686	26,185	55,636	4093	18,139
53,129	8139	14,921	30,472	36,423
36,724	4307	41,175	53,552	15,778
39,744	8580	32,216	2230	

Prizes of 50l.

15,608	48,220	8897	12,255	39,554
17,618	8688	38,317	14,518	44,643
13,315	51,406	56,376	30,711	20,495
28,185	11,841	15,785	35,862	51,903
57,294	15,468	39,623	21,086	28,943
28,162	56,088	250[illegible]	57,581	46,771
18,812	58,103	53,930	20,377	4736
23,905	44,530	52,029	16,270	46,316
38,248	21,528	51,575	51,312	22,289
38,440	1272	13,721	34,410	23,176
18,263	25,273	28,193	58,580	45,177
46,037	34,330	57,860	32,067	46,518
21,855	50,527	29,664	46,343	8685
14,033	23,196	57,416	30,904	23,006
13,404	52,682	44,272	40,237	12,127
51,522	3971	29,791	49,477	48,338
45,297	57,464	50,469	45,349	43,551
28,814	59,834	37,918	1199	28,750
33,671	1151	33,671	20,528	15,092
26,246	47,489	21,281	25,333	2544
58,986	10,863	6539	41,499	54,298
39,927	20,542	2246	36,297	20,973
42,417	50,266	49,341	536	15,559
11,504				

The Lottery ended drawing on Tueſday the 3d inſt.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH, JANUARY 19.

Extract of a letter from London, Jan. 14.

"Yeſterday was tried at the Old Bailey, the cauſe between Mr Hart of Edinburgh, and David Main, whom he charged with having ſtole an old watch chain, the ſtone of a ſmall ſeal, and four ſmall books. The council for Mr Hart contended, That, although theſe articles of impeachment were of too ſmall value to occaſion ſo expenſive a proſecution, that Main was at the ſame time *ſuſpected* of having *abſtracted* from Mr Hart's bureau ſome *confidential letters and papers* that were of great value to his client; and he admitted that this was the real motive of the proſecution.—There was nothing proved by Mr Hart's witneſſes that could ſupport either of theſe charges againſt Main; and, upon Mr Hart's being examined, he could not deny that the expence of the proſecution was bore by another perſon, although he artfully attempted to evade this queſtion.—The evidence for Main was very conſiſtent, and proved that there could be no felonious intention. In the courſe of this trial, which laſted four hours, it

clearly appeared, that the profecution was carried on with a view to ſerve ſome political ends. The jury, without going out of court, returned a verdict, acquitting Main of *every part* of the indictment; and the court teſtified that humanity for which this nation is ſo juſtly diſtinguiſhed, by the moſt univerſal joy, and the loudeſt claps of approbation. —After the trial Mr Main was detained for ſome time at the door of the Old Bailey, receiving compliments on his acquittal from a number of gentlemen and ladies."

Upon the night of the 7th inſt. there was ſtolen out of the houſe of Ayton, a box, containing money to a conſiderable amount, and papers of value. A precognition having been taken before the bailie of the barony of Ayton, and ſundry circumſtances of ſuſpicion ariſing thereupon againſt one Ninian Love, ſervant to the gentleman from whom the box was ſtolen, he was laſt night impriſoned in the tolbooth of this city by warrant of the ſheriff.

On Wedneſday ſe'en night the hon. Simon Fraſer, Eſq; maj. gen. on the Britiſh eſtabliſhment, commander in chief of the forces of his moſt faithful majeſty, and member of parliament for the county of Inverneſs, was preſented with the freedom of this city.

On Tueſday the court of ſeſſion, upon the report of lord Gardenſton, and by conſent of parties, paſſed the bills of ſuſpenſion in the cauſe Dodſley againſt Macfarquhar, for printing Cheſterfield's Letters, whereby the ſale of all Scots and Iriſh editions of that book is prohibited, until the queſtion of right, as to the property of the book, is finally determined.

Yeſterday being held as the anniverſary of her majeſty's birth-day, the ſame was ſolemnized here with the uſual demonſtrations of joy.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

HAVING occaſion to be a-horſeback before ſun riſe, on Tueſday morning the 20th inſt. and pleaſed with the ſerenity of the day, I was ſurpriſed with the uncommon appearance of the ſun from the firſt peep of its riſing, which I diſtinctly ſaw over the top of a not far diſtant or high hill. Tho' not a cloud in the horizon, nor the leaſt fogginess in the air, it bore that ſilver-coloured appearance of a full moon after being an hour up, but greatly exceeding that in magnitude, and without the leaſt ſpot. My ſervant, in a ſort of amaze, aſked me if ever I ſaw ſo large a moon? I bid him look to the almoſt oppoſite ſide of the hemiſphere, and he would ſee the moon juſt going down. He as well as I continued looking at this appearance for the ſpace of two miles riding. It emitted not the ſmalleſt glare of light peculiar to that luminary, or rays from any part of its great circumference, nor offended the eye, though full fixed on it, more than the moon in a clear night: and I farther obſerved, that no ſhade was produced from my horſes, or from a pretty large and high houſe I rode cloſe to the back of. Taking notice of this at a gentleman's houſe in the evening of that day, a gentlewoman told me that the country people ſtopped their ploughs to gaze at this uncommon ſight.

If any of your learned correſpondents will aſſign the natural cauſe for this unuſual phœnomenon, it will be very obliging to numbers who made the ſame obſervation, as well as to,

SIR,

Yours, &c. VIATOR.

Dec. 23. 1774. *in lat. almoſt* 58.

On the Government and Grievances of the City of Edinburgh.

LETTER II.

Brethren and Fellow-citizens,

I ADDRESS myſelf to you, not from any vanity I have in becoming an author, but purely for your good: at leaſt ſuch are my inclinations, whatever you may think of my abilities. When a man writes what he thinks in his heart is for the good of his neighbours, expecting to draw no fee or reward, no copy money for his work, nor no praiſe for his writing, except what may reſult from the ſucceſs of the hints and advices he has thrown out, you ought to hear him with patience. I hope, therefore, you will pay a little attention to what I propoſe to treat of, it being eſſential to your properties as well as to your liberties.

For an introduction to my preſent ſubject, I muſt refer you to my letter to the Publiſher, inſerted in the Weekly Magazine, P. 95. and taking it for granted you have peruſed it, I now proceed to give you a notion of the government of

the Good Town, as eſtabliſhed by antient laws, and confirmed by preſent practice.

This town is very antient: But do not let its antiquity make you proud; for you can no more derive luſtre from being citizens of it, than a man can derive virtue and merit from the nobility of his birth. Righteouſneſs exalteth a city as well as a nation. An impartial diſtribution of juſtice, and a faithful execution of the truſt committed to our rulers, muſt make peace be within our walls, and proſperity within our palaces.

It will be needleſs for my purpoſe (and truly I am unable for the taſk) to trace back the government of this town to its original foundation. The ſett of the town, as eſtabliſhed by James VI. in the year 1583, is the foundation of the political conſtitution of this city; and lord Hay's decreet-arbitral, in the year 1729-30, is rather an explanation of the meaning of the ſett than a material alteration of it. The ſett and decreet-arbitral are in the poſſeſſion of almoſt every tradeſman, being printed at full length in the Hiſtory of the Blue Blanket; and our more wealthy fellow-citizens, the merchants, from whoſe tribe our chief rulers are choſen, will find them in their libraries, inſerted in Maitland's Hiſtory of Edinburgh. To theſe books, therefore, I muſt refer you for a thorough knowledge of the principles of government in this city; for it would draw out my paper to an enormous length, were I here to give you the ſubſtance or particulars of them.—From the tenor of both it appears, that the merchants and trades in this city have been always looked upon as ſeparate and diſtinct bodies in the government; though I may venture to ſay, that no town in the world ever had leſs reaſon to make that diſtinction; for I never read or heard that we were eminent merchants in any age. Our merchandiſe (I don't uſe the word *trade*, becauſe by that I mean to diſtinguiſh the handicraftman from the merchant) was not only inland, but within the burgh. If our commerce was more foreign and extenſive than I ſuppoſe it, theſe merchants were leſs fit for the magiſtracy than others, their foreign connections, and perhaps going abroad themſelves, rendering their reſidence within burgh leſs frequent, and conſequently their concern for its welfare leſs warm, than thoſe who had their conſtant habitation in it; but, if the merchants in former times, who compoſed our town-council, were juſt ſuch ſhopkeepers as our preſent, then no doubt their title to the government was equally good with that of the trades; but I can by no means draw a concluſion from the above circumſtances, that their weight in the government ſhould be greater than that of the trades, who are, and muſt always have been, a more numerous body of burgeſſes. I ſuppoſe the diſputes for this pre-eminence in council were the cauſe of the regulations laid down by the ſett in the 1583, whereby the council was made to conſiſt of thirty-three members, ſeventeen merchants and ſixteen tradeſmen; and theſe thirty-three do at this day repreſent the whole body of inhabitants in the city of Edinburgh, and as ſuch ſend a member to repreſent them in parliament. This body of men, beſides managing and diſpoſing of the good of the town, are intruſted, jointly with the miniſters of this city, with the government and adminiſtration of the funds of George Heriot's hoſpital—a pious and princely charitable foundation, made by a burgeſs, a tradeſman of the city of Edinburgh. They are alſo ſole governors of the Trinity hoſpital, patrons of all the eſtabliſhed churches within burgh, and of others in its neighbourhood; ſuperiors of the town of Leith, and of the ſuburbs of Edinburgh, ſuch as Canongate, Portſburgh, &c. and of many lands and houſes in and about the town, from which they draw an immenſe revenue. They alſo preſent the whole profeſſors in the univerſity.

Theſe are the principal powers and privileges of the town-council collectively as one body; but when we come to diſſect this body, we find that the whole power of judging, both in civil and criminal matters, is veſted in the provoſt and bailies, who muſt be of the eſtate and calling of merchants. The dean of guild and town-treaſurer, officers of great truſt (though the truſt in the laſt is now juſtly abridged), muſt alſo be of that calling.

From the powers ingroſſed by the body of merchants in council, we may judge of the limited influence of the trades. Fourteen deacons, choſen from their reſpective corporations, and two counſellors, choſen by the council, called trades counſellors, repreſent the numerous body of tradeſmen in Edinburgh.

But there is ſtill a further limitation on the influence of the trades in council, by the diviſion of the deacons into ordinary and extraordinary. The ordinary deacons are only ſix in number, and called council deacons, as making part of the council on every occaſion; but the extraordinary deacons, who are eight in number, only compoſe the council on particular occaſions—hence named extraordinary. It may be obſerved, that the ordinary or council deacons are diſtinguiſhed on public occaſions by wearing gowns, an ornament their extraordinary brethren are deſtitute of. The deacon convener is of the number of the ordinary deacons; but, as convener and head of the trades, has no additional privileges above his brethren in council, except that of wearing a gold chain.—His privilege and power in former times muſt have been great. Lord Hay, in his decree, ſays, "The office of convener has the authority of too long uſage to be called in queſtion;" for it would ſeem the merchants grudged the extent of it. He was, and is ſtill indeed, keeper of the craftſman's banner, commonly (from its colour) called the Blue Blanket. On diſplay of this ſtandard, the trades flocked to it, and no doubt, on many occaſions, made a very bad uſe of it, raiſing mobs rather than quaſhing riots; for, as king James VI. ſays, if ever the trades are convened, *up goes* the Blue Blanket.—I am neither credulous nor partial enough to believe in all the wonderful feats ſaid to have been performed by the loyal trades, as they are called, under this banner. For this reaſon, I do not quote as an authority the ſtory of deacon convener Cuthbert, who for a boon aſked the king to free the trades from the toll of the magiſtracy, which, it is ſaid, was granted; and for this the convener was murdered, &c. &c.—All I would infer is, that the trades are unequally repreſented in council; and that, in this reſpect, the ſtate of the town requires amendment.

I am, &c. W. O.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 7. At Richmond in Surry, col. Fleming, of the guards, to Miſs Mills, daughter of William Mills, Eſq; of that place.

12. At Weſtminſter-abbey, the right rev. Dr John Thomas, lord biſhop of Rocheſter, to dowr. Elizabeth Yates, relict of Sir Joſeph Yates, Knt. late one of the judges of the court of King's-bench.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 23. At Florence, the grand ducheſs of Tuſcany, of a young prince.

Jan. 4. At Caſtle-Caulfield in Ireland, the right hon. lady Charlemont, of a ſon and heir.

DEATHS.

—. At Paris, the right hon. Charles O'-Brien, earl Thomond, viſcount Claire, a peer of the kingdom of Ireland, and colonel of a regiment of Iriſh infantry.

Jan. 7. At London, Sir George Thomas, Bart. He was many years governor of Antigua, and afterwards governor-general of the Leeward Iſlands. On retiring from his government, his majeſty, in reward for his ſervices, called him to the degree of baronetage. He is ſucceeded in titles and eſtate by his ſon, now Sir William Thomas of Titchfield-ſtreet.

9. At Dean in Kent, Sir George Oxenden, Bart.

10. At London, in the 78th year of his age, major-general Lawrence, who, for the ſpace of twenty years, commanded the Eaſt-India company's troops, and was the firſt officer who carried military diſcipline into India.

11. At St Andrew's, Mrs Sharp of Kincarrochy.

To our CORRESPONDENTS.

PHILOGATHUS under conſideration.

CORIOLANUS ſhall have a place.

The *Plain Honeſt Man* ſeems to be a very ſimple man—It would appear he lives among Hottentots, whom he ought to have little communication with, or get rid of as ſoon as poſſible.

We are obliged to our good old friend R. L. (who has formerly appeared under various ſignatures) for his ſpirited reflections on plagiariſm, which we ſhould have adopted, had they not been foreſtalled by another correſpondent. We don't pretend to have every Engliſh author by heart, and the quick rotation of publiſhing often prevents our having it in our power to diſtinguiſh copies from originals; but that *thief* ought to be whipped through the country, with a *label* on his breaſt, denoting his crime, who has the impudence to pilfer diamonds, and make us venders of the jewels, as it honeſtly come by.

The Lady's Complaint ſhall appear in our next, as we could not overtake it this week.

Mr T. F.'s acroſtic defective in meaſure, wild and romantic, his miſtreſs a wonderful lady ſeeing

In beauty none could e'er with her compare.

NITHIANUS's moſt obliging favours come to hand.

B. M.'s letter juſt received, but came too late.